



## THIRTY-PLUS YEARS IN LAKE CLAIRE: From Tie-dye to Khaki

**Part 16: Brotherhug (Doug) and Janet Barlow**  
by Beth Damon



*Janet, Bekah, and Doug in front of their Hardendorf home – Summer 2006*

Every neighborhood has its own rhythm and personality. I began this series to give a feel for Lake Claire's through the eyes of folks who lived here for the last quarter century or so. I started the series interviewing friends and neighbors. As I broadened the pool of subjects to other people, I found myself being enriched as I got to know a range of people, from those who grew up in the neighborhood and remained, such as Kathie Ryan and the late Reba Treon (who passed away in November 2012), to writers living quietly under our noses (such as Alice Bliss), to those who moved here in the 70s and raised their families in Lake Claire (such as Susan Beeching and Marilyn Schertz), to those 30-somethings who grew up here (such as Lorna Mauney-Brodek). This month I went a little further afield, interviewing from afar former residents Janet and Doug Barlow (whom many of us know as Brotherhug). The Barlows moved to Lake Claire in June 1986, where they lived in their Hardendorf home until July 2006, when they moved, not too "afar," to Asheville. Here are

notes from our conversation.

*Where are you from, and what brought you to Lake Claire?*

Both of us grew up in the Atlanta area, left for a while, and then returned. We became charter members of Sevananda in 1975 when we were living at Pepperland in Cherokee County, North Carolina, and we got to know Little Five Points at that time. We gradually moved to Lake Claire,

*Thirty-Plus Years cont. on p. 5*

## Lake Claire Neighborhood History and Origin of Name

Atlanta is sprinkled with neighborhoods which were either streetcar or "early automobile" neighborhoods. Kirkwood, Edgewood, Grant Park, Virginia-Highland, Midtown, Ansley Park, Morningside, and many others evolved as streetcar communities that went through the transitional impacts of the automobile's eventual predominance as the state-of-the-art transportation mode.

## What is Amata?

by Norman Glassman

Because our home property called Amata is part of the walking path from the Land Trust past the pond and then to Nelms Avenue and beyond, we often get asked a very understandable question from some of the folks who walk by: *what is Amata?* This has come up again recently, so I decided to write this article.

Amata is the name given, by the original owner/builder Alexander Samuels, to the unique house (and surrounding 1.5 acres) he built at 317 Nelms Avenue in 1946. He built the house as a present to his wife to cele-

brate their 25th anniversary. A lovely story, even better if true, and helped by the inscription "Amata" (beloved) that he carved in the concrete portico over the original front door. I came to Lake Claire in 1974, renting a small apartment on Aldophus to be close to friends, and because rents were cheap; I paid \$110/month for my one-bedroom apartment.

Many homes in the neighborhood were vacant, a few had been abandoned and condemned,

*Amata cont. on p. 10*



*Norman and Marilyn in a nook on the Amata property - photo by Rusty Gilbert*

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THE CLARION IS PRINTED ON  
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The Clarion is published monthly. The deadline for advertising and editorial consideration is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Letters to the editor should be limited to 300 words or fewer. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not those of Lake Claire Neighbors, Officers, or the Clarion Staff.

The Clarion (including its predecessor Neighbors Monthly and *its* predecessor Lake Claire Neighbors Flyer) has been written, edited, and distributed by volunteers since 1989.

## Calling Lake Claire Artists

Lake Claire needs a new logo design for our neighborhood hanging banners. Put your creativity to work for the neighborhood. If you're an artist and are interested in donating a design to the neighborhood, please let us know, or start thinking about it. If we have multiple entries, even if your work is not chosen, it will not go to waste – we intend to use all the artwork submitted, for future projects, such as our reusable cloth bags (see March issue, page 1). We know that if more than one artist enters, it will be a tough call. The deadline is May 31, the entries will be published in the August newspaper, and Lake Claire residents will be eligible to vote. For more information, write to [fun@lakeclaire.org](mailto:fun@lakeclaire.org).

## April: Mark your Calendars

Known, Little Known, and Unknown about April: April is National Humor Month, International Guitar Month, Keep America Beautiful Month, National Anxiety Month, National Welding Month, National Garden Month, and Uh-Huh Month. April 3 is "Tweed Day and Don't Go to Work Unless It's Fun" day (we know your decision). April 6 is "Sorry Charlie" day – to honor those who have been rejected and lived through it.

**1 - May** – Frida & Diego Exhibit at The High Museum. ("Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera: Passion, Politics, and Painting"). Clarion Editor's Choice.

**1 - May 31** – Plant Sales, Ga. Perimeter College, Fridays & Saturdays. Wednesday Lunch and Wildflower Series, free native plant talks, guided garden walks, and more!--see <http://gpcnativegarden.org/>

**1 - August** – Fernbank Museum iMax film "Titans of the Ice Age" --Woolly mammoths & saber-tooth cats! [www.fernbankmuseum.org](http://www.fernbankmuseum.org)

**6** Upcoming Native Plant Sales by Trees Atlanta. 1st Annual Native Perennial Wildflower and Vine Sale, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Trees Atlanta Kendeda Center, 225 Chester Ave Atlanta, GA 30316 (Reynoldstown) Proceeds benefit Trees Atlanta's Youth Education Program. [Lauren@TreesAtlanta.org](mailto:Lauren@TreesAtlanta.org), <http://treesatlanta.org/news/support-us/native-plant-sale>

**6 & 20** – Land Trust drum circle, dark until midnight. Please walk, bike, or carpool.

**7 & 21** (the day after each drum circle) – "Keep the Trust" Volunteer Work Day, 11:00 am-2:00 pm. Volunteers get free pizza and a drum circle pass.

**13** Wild Mushroom Hunting workshop at the Land Trust, 1:00-2:00 pm. See article on Page 11 herein or visit [www.LCCLT.org](http://www.LCCLT.org) for workshop details.

**18 and the 3rd Thursday of every month** – Lake Claire Neighbors Meeting, graciously hosted by The Frazer Center, in the Rose Room, pizza & beverages at 7 p.m., meeting 7:15 p.m.

**19** Goodness in the Gardens, Frazer Center, Cator Woolford Gardens, 7-10 p.m., 1815 S. Ponce de Leon Ave. NE, \$50/person, Purchase tickets online at [www.goodnessinthegardens.org](http://www.goodnessinthegardens.org)

**20** Sweetwater 420 Festival 5K – benefit for Candler Park. Volunteers--free t-shirt [gigi@visionorganizing.com](mailto:gigi@visionorganizing.com)

**20** Great Atlanta Bicycle Expedition: Rediscover Atlanta – by BIKE! Registration 7-8:45 a.m. Early-bird registration ends April 1 at 11:55 p.m. From Castleberry Hill to Cabbagetown, Midtown to Mozley Park, Buckhead to the West End, unknown gems to unforgettable history, community gardens to champion trees, street art to high art. Plus there is an after-party. More info: [matt@atlantabike.org](mailto:matt@atlantabike.org)

**20** Land Trust workshops "The Birds of Lake Claire, 8:00-10:00 am, and "Organic Vegetable Gardening 101" 1:00-4:00 pm. See article on Page 11 herein or visit [www.LCCLT.org](http://www.LCCLT.org) for workshop details.

**28** 5th Annual Rocket Run 5K & 1 mile BLAST, 9 a.m., see article & details on Page 7 herein.

**28** Stacked Log Joinery & Basic Wood Tools workshop, Land Trust, 1:00-4:00 pm

Send calendar items for MAY Clarion by  
 APRIL 15 to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org)



Pizza, compliments of Savage Pizza, and drinks will be served starting at 7:00 p.m. (Meeting starts at 7:15 p.m.) The Lake Claire Neighbors Association thanks this local business for its generous support.

## Coming in May:

**May 4** – Land Trust Fairy House Tour of Homes, 4:00 p.m.-dusk.

**May 11** – Lake Claire Picnic at the Land Trust (time to come in next issue or on website, 11 a.m. to 2-ish)

## Editor's Note

### Erik Rühling Joining the Clarion Staff

**Welcome to Erik Rühling**, who joins us this month as layout artist. He lives at 440 Leonardo with his wife Sarah, daughter Anneliese, and his mother-in-law Colleen. They have lived in the neighborhood for about 8 years. He works at Resource Branding & Design, where he does layout and web development. Erik is excited to be able to contribute to the neighborhood, and I am thrilled to welcome him to the Clarion staff.

**We welcome your submissions** of articles, photos, and art for possible inclusion in The Clarion. Send submissions to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org) by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Submissions to the Clarion will be accepted for publication under the following terms: Submissions are no more than 500 words; the editor may edit submissions; and submissions may be on any topic of general interest to the neighborhood. If you are not a writer, I welcome your ideas for articles. Write to [editor@lakeclaire.org](mailto:editor@lakeclaire.org), or phone me at 404-727-0608 (daytime number). We love to keep up with the news in the schools and that of Lake Claire's friends and businesses. I am anxious to hear from parents at Inman and Grady -- or students at Grady. Most of my contacts are connected with Mary Lin.

**Advertise in the Clarion.** Advertising in the Clarion is an effective, affordable way to reach **more than 1,200 households** in Lake Claire. Interested businesses and individuals may advertise in two ways: through classified ads and display ads. Classified business and personal ads are \$3 per line. Personal ads are FREE to Lake Claire residents. See the pricing on display ads at <http://www.lakeclaire.org/wpsite/clarion/advertise-in-the-clarion/>. For more information, write to Talia, our advertising coordinator, at [newsletter@lakeclaire.org](mailto:newsletter@lakeclaire.org). You may pay through PayPal.

Enjoy the Spring! –B.D.

## Turkeys in Lake Claire?!

And we don't mean people... in fact, a full grown, and presumably wild, female turkey has been spotted on several streets in Lake Claire and some adjoining neighborhoods over the course of the last month. She seems not at all concerned about the cars riding by – or people taking her picture.

Jeanne Marie St. Romain spotted her at the intersection of Connecticut and New York Avenues while walking her dog. Other neighbors have reported sightings on Harold Avenue. We hope if she's a pet that she is found before someone thinks that she'd make a good dinner.



*Turkey Ambling Along Connecticut - Photo by Jeanne Marie St. Romain*

## What Happens When YOUR Doorbell Rings?

by Christy Waehner

If you have a dog, it's not uncommon for the doorbell to signal: "get 'em," with your dog(s) flying to the door barking a warning. If you have two dogs, it actually becomes dangerous for your dogs because both will be in a state of high arousal—who's going to get there first, who barks the loudest, get out of my way, etc. What can happen is that one dog steps on the other, and the one stepped on may turn on that dog, resulting in an injury. The more the dogs rehearse this behavior, the worse it can get.

Our Dobermans, Sylvia and Mo, were terrors when the doorbell rang. The two of them flew to the door, barking, spit flying, their anxiety levels so high that they would go after each other. They never hurt one another, just showed a lot of teeth and made a lot of noise, because in all the excitement, they were bumping and stepping on each other. Of course, this presented a pretty horrible picture to anyone standing at the door. While this works as a deterrent to anyone thinking of entering our house uninvited, during this time of BSL, I don't like my dogs looking like rabid devil dogs ready to tear apart anyone at my door.

(BSL is Breed Specific Legislation, and it does not apply only to Pit Bulls, German Shepherds, Rotties, and Dobermans, but to a whole list of dogs, which may well include your own—Boxers, Huskies, Golden Retrievers, and even Labs, are on the list.)

It occurred to me to change this behavior when Jones and Parker came along. Being a clicker trainer, and seeing how conditioned they were to expecting a cookie every time they hear the click, I decided to turn the doorbell into a cue to get a treat. I started doing this by myself. I got their highest value treat—roast chicken -- and went to the door, positioning myself partially out the door. I rang the bell and immediately gave them some of the treat. Because it was me ringing the bell, they weren't overly excited, and I was close enough to stuff food into their mouths. We did this several times, and we continued over the course of several days. It didn't take long for the bell to signal FOOD!

Then I asked Dave to help. I stood back a bit with the dogs, while he rang the bell. Again, they caught on quick. Ding-dong, food's here. It's a no-brainer. From here, I took them into an-



*Christy Waehner's Parker*

other room, and let Dave ring the bell. Their immediate reaction, even though we had been doing this, was to run to the door, but I had the food ready, called them back, fed them, and then asked, "who's there?" and continued to feed as we went to the door, together. I started asking Dave to ring the bell when he came home at night. Since I know about when that will be, I was ready with the treats. Having done many, many bell rings with the treats right there, the reaction to the bell became: find Christy and get a treat, and then together we would go to the door.

Doing this consistently has reduced the stress for them when someone is at the door. I frequently hear the bell ring, see the dogs go to the door, and then come to find me. Occasionally, depending on who the person is, I do get some intense reaction from them, but I can control it pretty quickly with my cue of "who's there?"

It's taken a lot of consistent work, but for the most part, I no longer have slathering Dobermans looking like they're going to kill each other, or wanting to have the visitor for dinner. And honestly, I really don't worry about someone thinking they are pushovers because they aren't barking. They still have the ability to let people know it's their house, and that's all that's necessary.

*Christy Waehner has lived on Hardendorf for 32 years. She is a certified K9 Nose Work Instructor, and a clicker trainer, and competes in agility and K9 Nose Work with her Dobermans, Parker and Monty. See her blog at <http://dobetalk.posterous.com/>. She also has a training DVD-- now # 5 on the Dogwise.com bestseller list for the past year (<http://www.dogwise.com>). – Editor.*



# Keeping An Eye on the Crime – And the Time

## Lake Claire Security Report - Weeks 5 – 8

### Commercial Burglary

1600 block McLendon Ave – La Fonda Latina 2/4/13

Damage: front window broken

Taken: nothing Prints obtained

### Residential Burglary

2000 block DeKalb Ave 1/28/13

Damage: none; back window pushed open

Taken: Dell laptop, iPod, Playstation, video games

### Theft from Auto

500 block Hardendorf Ave 1/27/13

Damaged rear window broken - parked on street

Taken: road side emergency kit Prints obtained

400 block Claire Dr 1/31/13

Damage: rear passenger window broken

Taken: HP computer laptop parked on street

1700 block Adolphus 2/20/13

No damage; possibly left door unlocked - parked on street

Taken: items valued at \$50 Arrest made



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**Cynthia Baer**  
Putting Down Roots

**Curious about Home Values or just need advice?**

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The market is shifting - it's a great time to make a change. I am available if you or someone you know are looking to **buy, sell, or invest in Real Estate**. I'm happy to offer advice, referrals, information on neighborhood listings, or supply up to date statistics on our neighborhood values.


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# THIRTY-PLUS YEARS IN LAKE CLAIRE: From Tie-dye to Khaki

*Continued from Page 1*

first renting a duplex in Midtown in 1977, then buying a house on Oakdale Road in Candler Park in 1981, and moving to Hardendorf in 1986 when we needed either to enlarge our house on Oakdale or move. When looking to move, it was important for us to stay in the Mary Lin school district.

*When was your house built, and did you do any improvements?*

Our Hardendorf house was built in 1930 from Leila Ross Wilburn plans and was a wonderfully designed house for family living. It was in generally good shape when we moved there, with one bathroom having been recently redone. Over the years we painted rooms, renovated the other bathroom, completely redid the kitchen, moved the back door, removed an old carport, added a deck on the back of the house, and turned the front lawn into perennial garden space.

*What are some of your favorite memories?*

20+ years of a weekly vegetarian potluck; Dorf potlucks; picketing with the Roadbusters along Ponce in Shadyside Park, then riding to jail in the paddy wagon with neighbors; work days in the Frazer Forest; Bill Fleming's block parties; Peace and Love festivals at the Land Trust; the Candler Park festival back when it was a neighborhood festival instead of a huge event; creating the Mary Lin school directory, and editing the Mary Lin newsletter; delivering the Star for 25 years as well as writing for the Star; the tire swing at the Land Trust; Sevananda; Little Five Points; the Atomic Café; Susie's; BOND credit union; the amazing community building efforts of the people of L5P; gardening in the front yard and talking to folks walking by; sitting on the porch and calling out to friends and having them join us for a while; talking across the driveway to our neighbors; house tours; garden tours; PTA meetings and neighborhood meetings, both at times contentious and other times boring; walking to the bus; taking the bus home from Candler Park station and the Route 12 bus driver, Mr. Parker, waiting for the regulars to get across the bridge at the MARTA station and down to the bus before pulling out, even though he was scheduled to leave; activities and

interests and neighborhood involvement in Lake Claire. And also:

**Mary Lin School:** We both served as PTA officers, newsletter editors, and helped to create the first school directory, along with lots of other activities over the 15 years that we had at least one of our three daughters at Mary Lin

**The Frazer Forest:** organized cleanups with girl scout troops and other groups, worked with others clearing ivy, privet, and other invasives.

**Potlucks:** organized a monthly "harolddorf" potluck.

Doug/brotherhug was involved with Sevananda; at various times he was a working member, board member, department manager, and newsletter editor.

**Roadbusters:** he was active for several years in stopping the stone mountain freeway, aka, presidential parkway, and was arrested and jailed for a day during "The Battle for Goldsboro Park."



*Janet & Doug Enjoying the New Bench on the Hominy Creek Greenway, W. Asheville*

**Lake Claire Community Land Trust:** He was a long-term volunteer, a trustee for two years, and managed the drum circle.

**Whistling:** Doug/brotherhug added joyful music during his "pennywhistle walkabouts."

**Bond Community Star:** he delivered it monthly for about 25 years, wrote a monthly column about Mary Lin and Harold-Hardendorf's "News From Lake Claire."

With other neighbors, he helped found the **Lake Claire Security Patrol** in response to the cat burglar's frequent break-ins.

Janet was working fulltime and was not as involved in other Lake Claire activities, although they were both charter members of PEDS, and she worked a lot on pedestrian safety issues in Atlanta.

*How was it raising Jen, Bekah, and Tisha here?*

Wonderful! -- walking, bike riding, and skating streets in our section of Lake Claire, Hardendorf, Harold, and connecting streets. Some particular memories from the girls: trips to the park, fun snow days and sledding in the park, waiting for the school bus and getting grilled Danishes from Susie's; walking to school at Mary Lin; many potluck dinners; some harder times at school, but also some wonderful teachers, other kids and parents.

*And for you as parents?*

Jen going down the Marlbrook hill from Hardendorf to Harold on skates and NOT crashing, and telling us about it afterward. Kinda made us gasp to hear about it, and of course, Marlbrook had a stop sign at the bottom of the hill; the story included Bekah or one of the Mauney-Brodek girls being stationed at the bottom of the hill to look for cars!

Jen and Bekah and their husbands live in Asheville. Jen has two daughters and is Title I Coordinator at Evergreen Charter

When I asked Brotherhug about interviewing him for this series, he said "that could be fun -- even though I only lasted 29 years in-town instead of 30+ -- and I'm still wearing tie-dye." Barlow often signs with just "Hug" for the ambiguity of whether it's a name or the verb. About 20 years ago, he and another hugger in our community, David Brock, aka Otis Breedlove, used to call themselves "the Brothers Hugg," and they would each call each other "Brother Hugg." Doug started using it as his internet nickname as well as using it at the Land Trust drum circles and music jams. When he moved to Asheville, he began to use it all the time. Even the mayor in Asheville knows him as Brotherhug Barlow. The name fits.

*and what did you take with you from Lake Claire?*

Leaving Lake Claire was not easy for us in many ways, although all the pieces fell into place so well that it was clear that it was time for us to move back to the mountains. We've certainly not had any regrets about our decision. Jen and Bekah and their husbands, and two of our granddaughters, live near us in Asheville and we love that.

The hardest part was leaving the awesome community we'd been active with for so long and starting fresh in West Asheville, not knowing many people. The first week we were in West Asheville, we discovered a 14-acre tract of vacant land across the road from our house that had been a trolley line in the 1890s. After having been involved in the Lake Claire Land Trust for 20 years, our immediate reaction was that it needed to become public land. It took four years of work before the City of Asheville purchased the land in public/private partnership with Buncombe County. Twenty percent of the funds were raised by the community. The property, neglected for 120 years, was thick with invasive plants ranging from multiflora rose to Japanese knotweed. Doug/Brotherhug formed a group, the Friends of Hominy Creek Greenway, which, over the past two years, in partnership

School here. Bekah is a GIS specialist doing contract work and going to school for her Masters degree. Tisha is married, lives in Savannah, and is a Group Leader at Target.com.

*Brotherhug and Janet, what were your "mainstays" in Lake Claire?*

The grandparent poplars in the Woolford forest / The Atomic Café / Neighbors

*What changes have you noticed in LC over the years, and what things stayed the same?*

The Atomic Cafe came and went. House prices soared astronomically.

*Finally, what about your move,*

**Thirty-Plus Years cont. on p. 8**



# The Faces of The Frazer Center

## Profiling the staff and volunteers that make The Frazer Center tick

by Lynn Nomad

This part in our occasional series features Ken Tarczewski. Ken is the Director of Facilities & Grounds at The Frazer Center. Our conversation follows...

### Clarion: What is your role at the Frazer Center?

I am responsible for maintaining a safe, clean environment, which includes maintenance of the buildings, both inside and outside, and the grounds, which includes the Cator Woolford Gardens and the Frazer Forest. As with any non-profit, all of us on the staff wear many hats, and I'm no exception. This provides me with the opportunity to be very diverse in what I accomplish on a daily basis and to touch people's lives in ways I never thought possible.

### As you see it, what are the chief benefits of having the Cator Woolford Gardens at the Frazer Center?

One incredible part of this property is the Gardens, which were original to the Cator Woolford estate. I am proud to be part of the team that is entrusted with the care of this neighborhood trea-

sure, including the surrounding old growth forest. The gardens offer many learning opportunities for the children and adults who attend the Center. It is a beautiful location to study plants and trees and the wildlife that call the garden and forest home.

Each year, the children and adults help us plant around the property. They learn about how a garden works, how to water, fertilize, and care for the plants as they grow. They even learn about how bees and earthworms help plants grow. During the warmer months, both the children and adults take short hikes on our nature trails, and they enjoy playing and working in the gardens.

### How do the Gardens help to promote the mission of the Frazer Center?

The Frazer Center mission is to be a community where people at all levels of ability and disability gather, learn, and flourish together. The Gardens play a role in promoting that mission in two ways: they offer a place for us to gather and learn together



*The Frazer Center's Cator Woolford Gardens that Ken tends*

and they generate much-needed income to support our work. All of the revenue that is generated through Gardens rentals goes back into maintaining the Gardens for the enjoyment of the community and into supporting both the Child Development Program and the Adult program. The Cator Woolford Gardens is a special events venue with a cause, and anyone who rents it for a special occasion can feel good about where his or her money goes.

### What is the best part of your job?

Knowing that I have taken part in helping shape the quality of life for all who step onto these grounds, by being entrusted with their safety and security—that, to me, is the most rewarding as-

pect of my job.

### What do you think the Lake Claire Community should know about the Frazer Center and the Cator Woolford Gardens?

I'd like for the Lake Claire community to know that The Frazer Center is a community of loving and nurturing folks who gather daily to help each other learn with the goal of giving everyone the chance to contribute to the larger community. I'd also like them to know that we consider it a privilege to be guardians of this beautiful 39-acre piece of property, which includes the Cator Woolford Gardens, and we appreciate their help in maintaining it as a safe and clean community treasure.



*Ken Tarczewski takes care of the Frazer gardens*

Join us for a evening out to benefit the Frazer Center



goodness in  
the gardens

featuring beer & wine, heavy appetizers, live music  
and a silent auction

**Friday, April 19, 2013**

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# 5th Annual Rocket Run Blasts Off on April 28 at Inman Park Festival

by Boyd Baker

The Mary Lin Education Foundation is holding its 5th Annual Rocket Run 5K & 1 mile BLAST on Sunday, April 28, at 9 a.m., in partnership with the Inman Park Festival. The race runs through Inman Park and Old Fourth Ward. Start time for the 1-miler is 9:45 a.m. Register for the race at [www.RocketRun.org](http://www.RocketRun.org) or [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

The Mary Lin Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that raises funds for Lake Claire's community elementary school. The Foundation's mission is to help Mary Lin Elementary achieve its educational goals by

providing instructional, physical, and technological opportunities for the enrichment of Mary Lin students. Organizer Beth Fucile, parent of 1st & 4th grade students, says "This is a great annual event that lets kids see real runners in action, while giving them an opportunity to race as well. One mile doesn't sound like much to some, but for a 5-year old it can feel like a marathon." She continues, "The Inman Park Festival has a special place in the heart of Mary Lin families with the great music, family fun, and the incredible parade, so we're very glad to be a part of



We featured Sofia Pozzo in the Lake Claire Clarion Kids' Corner in the November 2012 issue (<http://www.lakeclaire.org/wpsite/clarionarchives/2012/2012-11.pdf>).

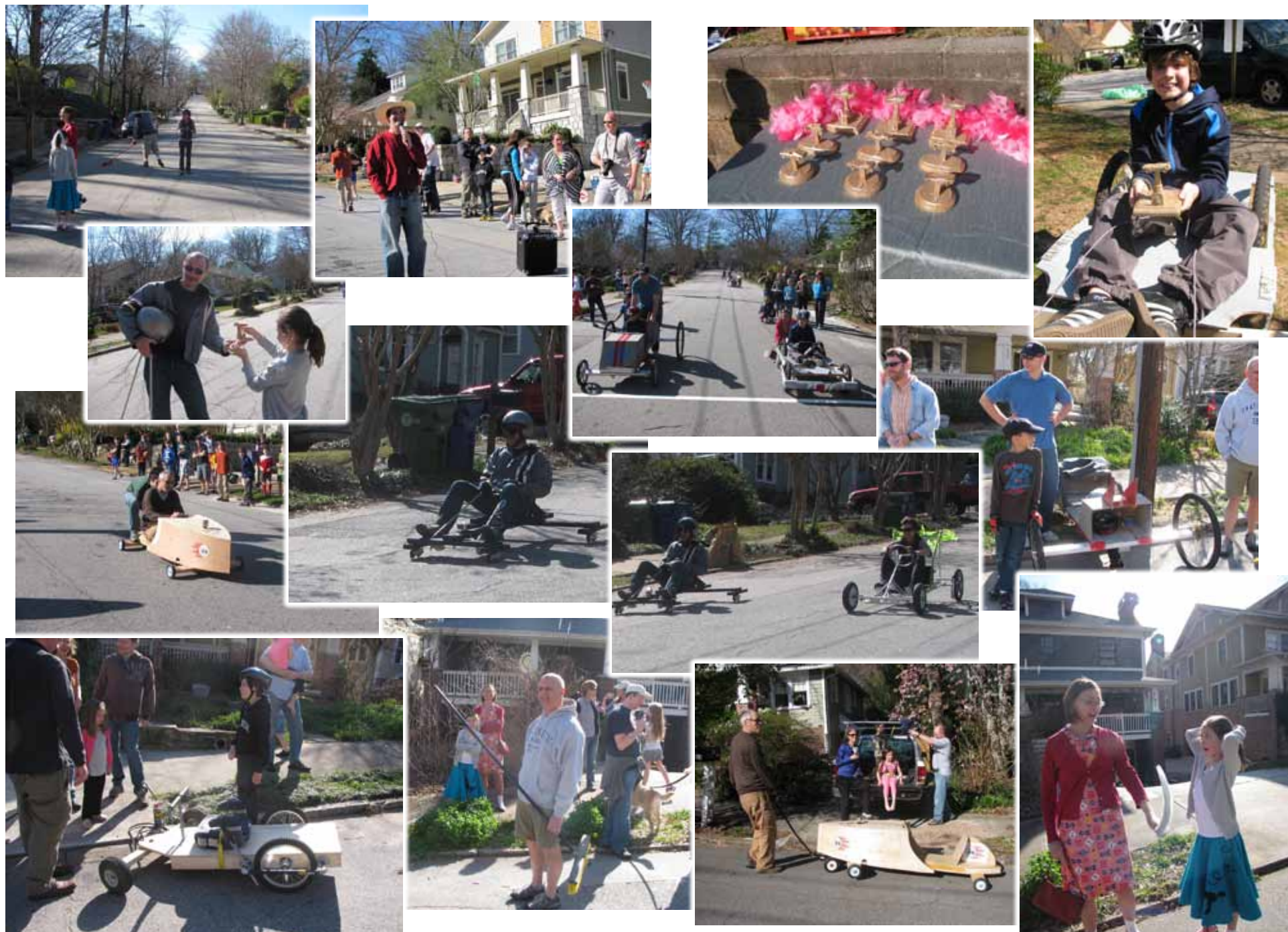
their weekend."

The cost is \$25-5K, \$15-1M before April 1, and \$30/\$20 afterwards. A Ghost Runner category allows folks to support the kids and get a t-shirt without having to run. T-shirts come with each entry and awards will be given by age and gender for the 5K.

Mary Lin Elementary's own Lake Claire resident Sofia Pozzo submitted the winning design for this year's t-shirt. Sponsors and volunteers are needed to make this race a success for the school. For more information, contact [rocketrun@marylinfoundation.org](mailto:rocketrun@marylinfoundation.org).

## Soapbox Race Last Month in Lake Claire

**Cowabungadude!** Lake Claire's soapbox race for adults, teens, and kids, was March 16. Some highlights:





**History cont. from p. 1**

riages. Later homeowners may have built garages, but they would have been too small for modern autos. Parking on the street is still common in "in-town" neighborhoods. In Lake Claire, the Massell Development on Claire Drive and Lakeshore Drive (1926), and houses on all subsequent streets, occurred after the automobile had established its "benefits," and, as a result, the houses on these streets were originally built with larger garages to accommodate the larger automobiles of the day.

Eventually, public transit in Atlanta declined as a result of strategic errors by transit management and competition from the more desirable and convenient automobile. Atlanta's contemporary transportation planners struggle with finding acceptable alternatives to conventional public transit which operates on fixed schedules and along fixed routes when demand-responsive concepts and technology are in place or emerging elsewhere.

While there is no explicit documentation describing the origin of the name "Lake Claire" as applied to our entire neighborhood, the following account is a good "guesstimate." Beginning before the turn of the century, a popular and common social organization in many neighborhoods throughout the south was the "Garden Club." In general, the membership was all women. Women's Suffrage legislation may have been ratified in 1920, but changing the mindset of society takes time. Garden Clubs were a socially acceptable opportunity for women to convene, have fun as gardeners, and become involved in other relevant social or civic-related activity. In 1920s-1930s Atlanta, it was common for the clubs to be comprised of residents of just a few streets. In the mid-1930s, there were several garden clubs in the area now called Lake Claire, the "Lake Claire Garden Club" being one of them. If someone lived on the south side of McLendon, she could belong to the "McLendon Garden Club," and if someone lived on Lake-

shore Drive, Claire Drive, Palifox, or Tuxedo, she could belong to the club with the contracted name "Lake[shore Drive] Claire [Drive] Garden Club."

From one previous resident's account, they "formed a garden club and Lake-Claire Civic Association. They lobbied with the [DeKalb] Commissioner, Scott Candler, for Lake Claire Park, acquired by the city in the late 1940s." The small triangular plot at the intersection of Claire Drive and Lakeshore Drive (at the McLendon end) was acquired and cared for by the women of the Lake Claire Garden Club. (As an aside, the club also knitted socks for the British Army before the U.S. entered WW II, and during the war, they rolled bandages for the Red Cross and participated in other civic functions.)

Until the late 1930s or early 1940s, the streetcar on McLendon terminated at Clifton. Before the discontinuation of the streetcar service, feeder bus service was likely initiated in an effort to bring passengers from the eastern communities along McLendon to the streetcar. The feeder bus route began at Clifton on McLendon and travelled east on McLendon, left on Claire, right on Palifox, left on Tuxedo, right on McLendon, then back to Clifton. A 1949 route map of trackless trolleys shows the #4-Lake Claire, with its route following that of the shuttle bus. This is the earliest documented use of the name "Lake Claire" being applied to the neighborhood-at-large. It is therefore likely that the name that was derived from the Lake Claire Garden Club in the manner noted above, describing the final destination of the area that was then being served by the shuttle bus.

Into the late 1970s, bus route #4-Lake Claire served our neighborhood. MARTA modified its route system in the early 1980s and Bus #4 was replaced by the current Bus #3-Candler Park-Palifox.

*Thanks to Bob Schreiber for much of this. He was Lake Claire's NPU representative and involved in the neighborhood for many years. - Editor*

## Atlanta Supports Bike Projects in 2013

Last month, the City of Atlanta approved \$2.5 Million for bike projects in 2013. Congratulations, Atlanta residents and visitors - the city just approved \$2.47 million for high-quality complete streets-style bike projects in 2013.

Thank you to everyone who contacted your councilmembers or signed the petition to the Atlanta Office of Planning for creating the project list and making the case, to the Mayor's Office for bringing the proposal to Council, and to the Finance Committee and Councilmembers for vot-

ing in favor. The money comes from existing bond revenues, and another \$2.5 million will go towards bridges and streetscaping. In just one year, this will add 15 miles of high-quality bicycle infrastructure to our city. To put this in context, cities like Washington, D.C. and Seattle build 10-15 miles of bike lanes annually. Those are pretty good cities to have in our bike-friendly sights.

*For more information, go to <http://www.atlantabike.org>. Thanks to Alison Amoroso for bringing this to the Clarion's attention.*

## THIRTY-PLUS YEARS IN LAKE CLAIRE: From Tie-dye to Khaki

*Continued from Page 5*

with Asheville Greenworks, has cleared a main trail and three side trails as well as a few acres for public usage.

A few months after we moved into our house, we covered our front yard with cardboard, newspaper, and mushroom compost to create garden space which we planted the following spring with herbs, vegetables, flowers and more. Over the years we've expanded the garden to completely encircle the house including 18 blueberry bushes, 3 cherries, 3 strawberry beds, and a large assortment of flowers and edible plants, as well as a fenced vegetable garden. And once again we enjoy sitting on the front porch or working in the front yard garden and talking to neighbors walking by.

Four years ago we joined with a group of neighbors to create the West Asheville Garden Stroll, an annual, free event that draws about 400 people. Janet was chair of the committee for the second and third Strolls. The Stroll is helping to cultivate the West Asheville garden style of edible gardens and neighborhood connections to go with them. Janet is still working on research related to accessibility for pedestrians who are blind or visually impaired and travels a lot around the U.S. In addition, she's been active in working with the Asheville Bicycle and Pedes-

trian Task Force on pedestrian issues in Asheville.

Lake Claire was a great place for us to learn community building. We were blessed to be with so many wonderful neighbors who worked toward creating strong community.

*These are voices of Lake Claire, even as they now live in Asheville. Brotherhug, after reading my article on Lorna Mauney-Brodek last month, told me that he too "experienced the harsh realization to discover that our kind of community is in the minority" when they moved to West Asheville. Interestingly, Lorna was one of his daughter Bekah's best friends growing up in Lake Claire. In the last two years, I have featured a small sampling of folks who have lived in Lake Claire since the 1970s-80s -- and earlier. I hope to feature many more longtime residents of Lake Claire. If you are one of these, and you have stories to share, history of your house, places that have gone, or any other special memories, please contact me editor@lakeclaire.org or 404-727-0608 (daytime number). Add your voice to the series. We are an eclectic mix - from emus to businesspeople, from tie-die to khaki.*

### Personal and Business Classifieds

Seeking room (and nominal storage) -for-rent preferably east of Little 5 Points area: by male senior-- independent, capable, responsible, personable handyman, retired photographer etc, with excellent local references, on fixed income (all included, \$400/monthly, affordable). Move-in by late May, or earlier at your convenience. Networking on my behalf (Reward Offered!) welcomed. jameslawrence7@gmail.com or 404-437-8447.



# The Garden from April into May

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Last year I listed the crops to be directly sown now: beans (bush and pole), pumpkins, corn, field peas, squash, cucumbers, okra, and melons. Yes, you can find sets of some of them in stores, but what could be easier to plant than a bean seed, so large and sturdy that even tiny fingers can help you push it into the soil or a large pot set in a sunny spot?

Even if you buy your plants, consider some new kinds. Yes, plant that Genovese or Sweet basil for making pesto, but add a lime basil or a red one for making Asian dishes or even tea. Both flat and curly parsley are pretty with flowers and useful for cooking. If you grow the plants yourself, pour almost boiling water over the seeded bed to help tough germination.

Other musts are peppers, cayenne or jalapeño for seasoning and sweet for raw or cooked dishes. The easiest I have grown for years is Lipstick (Johnny's Selected Seeds), small but productive. My favorite yellow pepper was Golden Summer, now vanished, like Big Girl tomatoes. This year I started tomatoes Porterhouse, Mater, Ultragirl, and Bella Rosa, among others, and will let you know how they do. It is so easy to grow your own tomatoes from seed in this climate that it seems ridiculous to buy plants. By the way, I note that last month I was so eager to tell you how to close up your wall o'waters and keep tomatoes safe from snow and frost that I misspelled *clothespin*. Did you notice?

Bush beans can be planted in rows or squares, using soil inoculant to help with fixating the nitrogen they use (also works for peas). Nowadays there are many kinds of beans, like filets, and colors, like yellow and purple as well as green. Sow them every two weeks to keep a supply coming in all summer. Pole beans do

not produce as heavily but are steady suppliers. You can make a teepee for them to grow on by fastening several poles at the top. Or you can buy a frame like mine that I restring each spring with degradable twine that goes to the compost bins in the fall. I especially like to grow yard long beans from southeast Asia and scarlet runner beans for their colorful flowers. Last year my bean plot was at the end of the garden, and I think the beans suffered from the drought. Big resolutions that THIS YEAR WILL BE DIFFERENT. That is the wonderful thing about gardening—you can always make up for the past.

Have you tried raised beds yet? They are great for beginning gardeners, for less than ideal soil, and for those with limited mobility. Try hilling up the earth in the planting area and laying old boards (untreated wood) along the sides to keep it stable. Or you can build a frame with concrete blocks high and wide enough to sit on as you garden. Or you can buy a fancy set made of recycled plastic or cedar. Just make sure your bed is no more than four feet across in one direction so that you can reach any part of it without standing on the soil. Fill your beds with a mixture of all the goodies I constantly push, like compost, manure, and good garden soil from another place in your yard. The beds will warm up earlier in the spring and are easier to manage because so defined. Be sure to mulch well and monitor water needs in the summer.

Recently I read an article by a woman who keeps a birdbath but no feeders for the flocks who visit her bird-friendly yard. Therefore she has no squirrel traumas and does not train the birds away from eating our native insects, seeds, and berries. Do you have a water source in your garden?

It should be shallow, raised off the ground, and not too near shrubs and trees that could hide their enemies. Keep the birdbath clean and full. If the water is changed every 5-7 days, it will not breed mosquitoes as first the chlorine has to evaporate, the eggs be laid, and then hatched. If you must leave water any longer, there are safe mosquito dunks that can be used in ponds and birdbaths. A birdbath in your front yard or otherwise on display could be surrounded by such plants as lavender (the Spanish works best for us), a multiflora rose, erigeron karvinskianus (a low, daisy-like flower I grew from seed a couple of years ago and has come through the winters), gaura, and lantana. Early in the spring, sweet alyssum and foxgloves, planted the fall before, would bloom first. You do not want the birds on the ground around the bath as they are too vulnerable there.

For the cooks, try growing some edible flowers: the above lavender, nasturtiums from seed, and the early blossoms of your squash (dipped in batter and fried). In the fall, violas and calendulas like the cooler weather and will bloom whenever the

weather warms. Just be very careful when you cook with flowers—use the specific kinds mentioned in recipes—because there are poisonous flowers, that beautiful foxglove, for instance.

You may e-mail Elizabeth ([knowltonew@earthlink.net](mailto:knowltonew@earthlink.net)), longtime Lake Claire resident, with gardening questions.

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## Outdoor Poisons

This is a reminder to dispose of things like anti-freeze and other outdoor poisons in a safe manner, and keep in mind that we have much wildlife in our neighborhood, as well as pet cats that roam into other people's yards. If poisons are stored in garden

sheds and basements, keep them locked. In particular, antifreeze is a sweet-tasting poison and appealing to animals; consumption of a very small amount can lead to rapid kidney failure and death within a very short period of time. Please be careful.

## Organic Vegetable Gardening 101

One of the Land Trust's continuing workshops teaches you "all you need to know to start your own vegetable garden," whether you have a large space or just a balcony. Master Gardener Rose Duncan will cover

everything from the basics of soil building skills to tips on harvesting. You will start some seeds to take home to begin your adventure in growing your own food. Please see article on Page 11 for complete details.



**Amata cont. from p. 1**

and generally parts of our dear Lake Claire neighborhood had bottomed out. The land that is now the Land Trust was mostly covered by thick kudzu, as were all of the deep backyards that surround the current Land Trust pond. Only one backyard was free of kudzu because the owner, Mrs. Cunningham, had a man come once a week to turn the kudzu runners back. Her yard (now Scooter MacLane's) was a brave but precarious stand against the all-powerful kudzu, which had consumed everything else on the interior of the huge block that you see if you walk through the Land Trust, past the pond, and on through our playfield area to Nelms.

One day I decided to push through the weeds and low fence at the back of my apartment and see what lay beyond. Pushing through the kudzu, I got a glimpse of the house that Mr. Samuels had built, and I saw that the kudzu had started growing onto the side porch. I mentioned my little adventure later to a neighbor, who told me that the original owners, the Samuels, had both died, and that the current renters were about to move.

After a long process, which included being refused a mortgage by several banks even though I was working as an engineer (the neighborhood "red line" effect) I discovered Bond Credit Union, which was happy to loan me the money to buy Amata, in April 1976. Because Amata included so much land and open space around and behind it (1.5 acres), the thought was there from the beginning that a group of people would live there, take care of the land, and try to work out some level of sharing common space and taking care of Amata as a small community. Marilyn and I raised our son Noah in the original house, and around 1996 we built a large addition behind the house, designed to encourage group activity, with a nice com-

mons upstairs and large studio downstairs facing the playfield.

Gradually we created more private rooms and tried different ideas to enhance living together as a group.

For several years, we formed a "dinner club" whereby 12 people each paid \$100/mo for all of their food, bought by 2 shoppers and prepared by the other 10 people, in shifts that each chose, either cooking or cleaning up. We had good, healthily prepared dinners 5 nights/week, plus we could all help ourselves family-style to the food in the refrigerator or pantry. My hope is that we will decide to start up a new dinner club someday and again reap the benefits of sharing food with other people.

There are many positive benefits to house sharing, and of course some challenges. Privacy is a challenge that seems to work itself out pretty well, since each resident here has a private room and is free to socialize in the common spaces, or not. Most residents here are students or work close to full time, and it is unusual for the common spaces to feel crowded. Often the opposite is true, and the house feels too quiet, with 10 residents who each have fairly busy lives. Another challenge is finding people with whom you are willing to share your house. We have gone through several phases here at Amata, and at times were functioning mostly as a place for events and childcare, with fewer residents. Now we are at a point where the focus is again on being a residential community, with few events and childcare on a much smaller scale. Also, since my wife and I are getting old, the question of change in ownership looms. We have always wanted Amata to become owned by a small group that would share the place as a Co-op; time will tell if that will happen. There are few other models of co-op home ownership in Atlanta for us to learn from; if you know of any, please let me know.

One of our goals at Amata now is to make sure that new neighbors have a chance to know who

we are, and give us feedback -- both positive and negative. We are generally on display, with about 50+ people walking through our side yard as they come and go to the Land Trust; that is a lot of people who get to see our landscaping in progress. We are slowly working to get our landscaping looking better and also (we hope) get grass growing in our playfield. I remind us of the Biblical injunction (roughly translated): Let he whose half acre side yard is without fault cast the first landscape stone. Seriously, feel free to e-mail me with concerns, compliments, questions about Amata. Also, if you want advice or more information about house sharing I will be happy to talk with you.

In closing, I want to say this: I have seen our dear neighborhood go from bottom to top. I think it is the best neighborhood in the city now. Generally I do not miss the "old days," when some houses around us were empty, and there was little sense of community, no Land Trust, no Dr. Bombay. In the old days, seeing four male transvestites strolling down McLendon in full drag, on their occasional walk from the house

nearby where they were squatters (common in the area at the time), was an interesting urban experience. So was seeing my large dog Moses sleeping in the middle of Nelms Avenue, where he was tolerated because we all knew he helped keep our street safe from burglars. But I much prefer to see the parents and kids strolling as we do now; it shows that our neighborhood is safer than ever. I do hope that Lake Claire continues to be a neighborhood that is comfortable with diversity of lifestyle, and diversity of income. I also hope that throughout the neighborhood are rooms, carriage houses, garages, cottages, etc., where students, artists, waitresses, retired folks, caretakers, boomerang young adults, etc., can find affordable and safe housing. This diversity of housing and people makes Lake Claire a great place to live.

*Norm can be contacted at [nglassman5@gmail.com](mailto:nglassman5@gmail.com). In a Clarion to come: information from Norm on sharing homes with others.*

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# Community Work Day Revival

by Stephen Wing

About 20 enthusiastic volunteers converged at the Land Trust on Sunday, March 10, for our first Community Work Day in many years. The goal was to prepare the land for our Spring Peace & Love Fest at the end of March. Starting bright and early at noon, they cleaned and weeded, spread wood chips on the paths, cleared a space for our newly donated bike rack, and more. A smaller crew worked in the Gorilla Grill to prepare a lavish vegan/vegetarian feast. The work party lasted till five o'clock, and dinner was served to all at six.

When we finished, the Land Trust looked a hundred percent prettier, and all the volunteers were happily exhausted. It was a wonderful reminder that we owe our beloved community greenspace to the participation of dozens of neighbors working together for a common goal, enjoying the work, the result, and each other. Watch this space in the



Clarion, or check our calendar at [www.LCCLT.org](http://www.LCCLT.org) for more Community Work Days during the year, possibly as often as once a season. Meanwhile, our semi-monthly "Keep the Trust" Volunteer Work Days continue on the day after each Drum Circle, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Land Trust thanks long-time supporter Matt DeBuyser for organizing the Community Work Day, and all the volunteers who made it such a success. We also want to thank Amy Stout for thinking of us when she arranged a grant from the City of Atlanta to install bicycle racks in strategic spots around Neighborhood Planning Unit N.

# Peace, Love & Enlightenment!

## Workshops & Classes at the Land Trust

Long known as a playground for kids of all ages, the Lake Claire Community Land Trust is now serving its community in a new way: **as an outdoor classroom.** Take your pick of these workshop offerings for the month of April. Please email [info@LCCLT.org](mailto:info@LCCLT.org) to sign up for these events, for more information about them, or if you'd like to present a class or workshop of your own in the future.

**Juicing and Raw Foods, Mon., April 1, 6:30 pm.** Learn new ways of thinking about nutrition and the culinary arts! Christian Griffin, a new Lake Claire resident and an Arden's Garden employee, will share the benefits of raw foods, how to prepare them, and ways incorporate them into your diet. Meet at the Gorilla Grill. Free.

**Wild Mushroom Hunting, Sat. April 13, 1:00-2:00 pm.** Jack Richards, an accomplished artist and mushroom hunter, will share his knowledge of wild mushroom identification and hunting. The main focus of his talk will be morels. (<http://americanmushrooms.com/morels.htm>) Meet at the Gorilla Grill. Free.

**The Birds of Lake Claire, Sat., April 20, 8:00-10:00 am.** Take a walk through the Land Trust, the Frazer Forest, and Candler Park with avid birder Bob Sattelmeyer to see and hear both typical in-town residents and spring migrants passing through. We will also spend a little time on birding basics, equipment, resources, and great spots to bird ITP. Meet at the Arizona Ave. entrance to the Land Trust. Limit 8. Free.

**Organic Vegetable Gardening 101, Sat. April 20, 1:00-**

**4:00 pm.** Learn all you need to know to start your own vegetable garden, whether you have a large space or just a balcony. Master Gardener Rose Duncan will cover everything from the basics of soil building skills to tips on harvesting. You will start some seeds to take home to begin your adventure in growing your own food. Presented by The Homestead Atlanta. Cost: for Georgia Organics members: \$35. For non-members: \$50. (Includes \$5 materials fee.)

**Stacked Log Joinery & Basic Wood Tools, Sun. April 28, 1:00-4:00 pm.** Get familiar with one of the basic techniques of timberframing, the semi-dovetail stacked log joint commonly used in log cabin building. Instructor Robert Jarrell will cover care and use of an axe, saw, chisel and mallet as well as some traditional measuring devices. You will also create and use a joint template as well as participate in hands-on tool use making joints and stacking logs/beams. Basic safety with sharp tools and heavy logs will also be discussed. Presented by The Homestead Atlanta. Cost: For Georgia Organics members: \$50. For non-members: \$65. (Includes \$20 materials fee.)

**ALSO... Soul Knitting, Sat. April 27, 2:00-4:30 pm.** In this beginner's workshop for kids and adults, yarn artist Eva Somer Belle will teach you basic knitting skills and give you a taste of how to design and create your own Art Yarn using recycled materials. Cost: \$20 for adults, \$15 for kids. Basic materials included. Limit 6. See Eva's work at [etsy.com/shop/evasartcessories](http://etsy.com/shop/evasartcessories), and e-mail her directly for more info: [thevikingpotter@yahoo.com](mailto:thevikingpotter@yahoo.com).

## Biscuits and Bellyrubs: April Showers



Anna Trodglén draws our *Biscuits and Bellyrubs* series. A life-time Atlanta resident, Anna grew up on the edge of Lake Claire. She lives with her husband Dugan, three terriers, and a Black Cat. Find Anna's greeting cards and prints at Donna Van Gogh's, owned and operated by Lake Claire residents.

## Land Trust Calendar:

- Mon. April 1** – Juicing and Raw Foods workshop, 6:30 pm.
  - Sat. April 6 & 20** – Land Trust drum circle, dark until midnight. Please walk, bike, or carpool.
  - Sun. April 7 & 21** (the day after each drum circle) – "Keep the Trust" Volunteer Work Day, 11:00 am-2:00 pm. Volunteers get free pizza and a drum circle pass.
  - Sat. April 13** – Wild Mushroom Hunting workshop, 1:00-2:00 pm
  - Sat. April 20** – The Birds of Lake Claire workshop, 8:00-10:00 am
  - Sat. April 20** – Organic Vegetable Gardening 101 workshop, 1:00-4:00 pm
  - Sat. April 27** – Soul Knitting, 2:00-4:30 pm
  - Sun. April 28** – Stacked Log Joinery & Basic Wood Tools workshop, 1:00-4:00 pm
  - Sun. May 4** – Fairy House Tour of Homes, 4:00 pm-dusk.
- See article on this page or visit [www.LCCLT.org](http://www.LCCLT.org) for workshop details.





## LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



I hope this series is fun and a way for young readers to participate. This month's contributions are written by brother and sister Ryan and Kelsey Eiler. Like the 30+ resident of Lake Claire article this month on Page 1, the Eilers are former residents of Lake Claire - who can't get it out of their minds. Ryan is 9½ years old, and Kelsey is 7¼. Parents Derek and Sarah Eiler moved to Lake Claire from the Virginia Highland neighborhood in 2000. They moved into a new house that had just been built in the woods across from Lake Claire Park, on Claire Drive, and they immediately became close with their neighbors, including the

matriarchs of the street— sisters Lucy Anderson and Mary Betty Ford. Sarah joined a book club with several other women on the street, which is still going strong today thirteen years later. When Ryan was born in 2003, she helped form a play group with twelve other moms in the neighborhood. The group met regularly for five years at people's houses or at Lake Claire or Candler Park. The kids still get together for play dates, and the moms go on occasional weekend trips or have nights out together. Some of the families vacation regularly together, too. "It's wonderful to watch the kids play together," says Sarah. "There is a special

bond between them because they have known each other since birth." In 2007, the Eilers moved to Morningside because Derek's commute to work in Marietta had doubled since they first moved to Lake Claire, and they wanted to be closer to the highway.

"Not a week goes by that we are not driving back to Lake Claire for play dates, dinner at La Fonda or Felinis, book club meetings, soccer practice at Toomer Elementary, or to swim at the Lake Claire Pool. We still come back to Lake Claire every year for Halloween to trick or treat with our friends. When the big ice storm shut down the city several years ago, we made sure we were

snowed in with friends in Lake Claire, so that we could go sledding every day at Lake Claire Park, and the kids would have plenty of friends to play with. We love Morningside, but still think that Lake Claire is the best neighborhood in the city. Maybe we'll move back some day," say Sarah and Derek.

Hey there, Lake Claire kids – Let's put some of **your** creativity on this page. Submit articles, poetry, drawings, your original puzzles, etc., to [editor@lake-claire.org](mailto:editor@lake-claire.org). Next time: what do you like about Spring...or Lake Claire...or choose any topic you wish. Be creative...we'd love to hear from you!

### What I Love About Lake Claire

by Kelsey Eiler

I love going back to visit my friends who still live in Lake Claire— Nia Hinson, Gabrielle Howard, Lilly Whitehead, and Jamie Connell. I still take dance with Jamie and Gabrielle and we do summer camps together.

I really like the giant mushroom at the Lake Claire Pool and diving into the deep end. I also like the little shallow area in the big pool where kids can stand and sitting under the umbrellas if it is sunny. I wish I could walk to the pool. Swim team is fun too. I liked swimming and the coaches give you gummy fish after practice.

My favorite restaurant is La Fonda in Candler Park near Lake Claire. I always ask my Mom to take me there, and I get a cheese quesadilla, salsa, chips, beans and rice.



Ryan and Kelsey Eiler

### What I Miss About Lake Claire

by Ryan Eiler

What I miss most about Lake Claire is that my friends were so close, the pool was so close, and the park was so close. Everyone who lives there is just really nice. We could walk wherever we wanted. I still go back there a lot to play with my friends.

I love going to the Lake Claire Pool. I like the pool because it is 12 feet deep in some places and I like when they turn on the sprinklers. I also love being on the swim team. The coaches are always pushing us to do our best. We don't always win but we always have a good time. A lot of my friends are on the swim team too.



Kelsey and Ryan Eiler at Amicalola Falls