

From the President's Corner

In the midst of rejoicing in Whitehall's beautiful green grass and flowering shrubs and trees, we also must pause and mourn the passing of two of our residents; Will Barker, a charter member of Whitehall, and Susan Clark, a more recent neighbor but a most talented retired art teacher. Our sincere sympathies lie with Faye Barker, Will's widow, and with Susan's daughter.

We must also remember the Raleigh residents hit by the recent tornado – a tornado that barely missed Whitehall. As a Board member, I shuddered to think about the terrible damage we may have had to deal with. Termites seem to pale by comparison.

The pool is open! Please review the rules and regulations posted later in the newsletter, and we ask the parents of teenagers to please talk them out of "end of year" pool parties, unless chaperoned by an adult. We seem to struggle with that every spring.

To all those who have supported me through the fall and winter months as I dealt with back pain, the good news is that I had back surgery last week and am finally "coming up for air". The world is good! Thank you to all my Whitehall friends who have provided flowers, food, and equipment for the invalid.

Sincerely,

Toni Cambier



Parking Spaces Repainting Plans

Now that warmer and drier weather is here, Cleve Gaines will begin repainting the parking places. This time we will use the rubberized paint used by the DOT on their roads, so as to be longer lasting. For security reasons, however, your parking places will simply have a Letter and a Number, rather than the number of your unit. We have 25 clusters, so will use 25 letters of the alphabet, followed by a number, 1 thru 8. Each homeowner will receive a letter notifying them about the new name for their parking places. Each guest spot will still say "Guest", as well as having a standing "Guest" sign for easier visibility.

Making Better Use of Our City Curb Services

To those walking around Whitehall, it is obvious that many residents care enough to pick up fallen branches after a storm or windy day and stack them at the side of the road. It's a shame, because this is wasted effort unless the branches are tied in a bundle or put into a container. Take time to buy an extra inexpensive garbage can, and use that for branch & stick collection. So much easier than bagging or bundling!

Did you know? Larger items placed out with your garbage can and recycling bin will not be picked up, and are considered littering by the City of Raleigh. You can be reported and fined for littering. You must call for a special pickup or take these items to the waste center yourself.

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**Join us in the Whitehall Garden.
We're growing Community, Friends, Plants and Beautiful Spaces
Submitted by Cindy Lambert**

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After re-reading my submission in the last newsletter I was amazed at how much progress has been made in the garden, compliments of garden members and Mother Nature as well as others. We have 14 official members/friends. I know that there are several more people who haven't yet officially joined by sending in a member form. I'm reattaching that form at the end of this article. We would love to have your participation and input.

We have a lot of raised beds now with most of them planted and thriving. Tomatoes appear to be the favored crop. I met two new gardeners just last night and they have seven different kinds of tomatoes in their box. I think if all goes well and we have a good crop year, our community garden club will have to consider having a tomato tasting party. Doesn't that just make your mouth water to think of fresh-picked tomatoes to taste right off the vine?

Our garden now includes some seating areas and a wonderful new picnic table thanks to the generosity of some of our members. I've enjoyed sitting in the garden in the evening: having a cocktail, listening to the birds, talking with my fellow gardener friends and just being grateful that Whitehall is creating our own little garden park.

My own individual garden has been an ongoing experiment. Having read the square foot gardening book, I thought I would try Mel's recommended mix...equal parts compost, vermiculite and peat moss; supposedly the ideal growing medium. However my veggies were turning more yellow than green so I am working on correcting things. The soil tested too alkaline and was very low in nitrogen. I had never tested soil before so perhaps the time had come for that. So I'm experimenting as I tend to my garden. And perhaps that is part of what is supposed to be happening. So I'm coaxed even more to spend time in this lovely space.

Perhaps one of the nicest benefits of joining the garden club is meeting some of my Whitehall neighbors. I ran into one of them on a walk the other evening and we chatted and laughed for awhile. Laughing with a neighbor is a wonderful gift of living here.

Oh and I wanted to mention that the different lettuces, that I managed to plant early and harvest several batches of before I had to pull them up to put in summer veggies, were so very delicious. I savored the many salads that I made and I look forward to having homegrown lettuce again in the fall. However I'm not looking forward to fall at this time as I want to enjoy the warm and long days of summer that lie ahead. And I'm sure much of my enjoyment of those days will be in our Whitehall Community Garden.

If you haven't come by the garden yet, I invite you to come by and visit. Perhaps you will be bit with the gardening bug or will feel some connection with this small, lovely piece of the planet. The garden is starting to grow and it will be interesting to see the ongoing development.

The Community Garden is for all Whitehall residents. All residents are welcome to visit the Garden and see it as it unfolds. We will continue to have updates in the Whitehall Newsletter to let all residents know what is going on in the Garden. We have gotten some feedback from residents who are interested in the Garden but can't commit to working 8 hours a month in the Garden. So we are adding a new category of "membership" for those people that want to be involved in the garden in some capacity.

Community Garden membership categories and application can be found on Page 3.

Community Garden Info

Friends of the Garden –

Suggested Annual Donation: \$10

Time commitment: None

Friends will be on our email list and will receive Garden news and invites to Garden events.

Level One Membership

Annual Membership Fee: \$20

Time commitment: 8 hours a month

Level Two Membership:

Annual Membership Fee: \$50

Time commitment: 8 hours a month

Both level one and two memberships receive the following benefits:

- Newsletters and notifications of all garden news and upcoming events.
- A portion of the produce, as available, from the community sections of the garden
- Voting privileges on garden decision issues
- Direct participation, if desired, in garden sub-committees
- Rental of a space in the Temporary Garden area, if desired, for \$25 per 4 ft X 4 ft space
- Level Two members have additional benefits of first access to Temporary Garden Spaces and invitations to special Garden events.

We invite you to join with us, your neighbors, as we embark on this journey to grow community, plants, friends and beautiful spaces.

Please fill out the following information and send it to:

Cynthia Lambert 5833 Sentinel Drive Raleigh, NC 27609

Email: cynthiamlambert@yahoo.com

phone 919-523-5147

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please circle appropriate item(s) and make check payable to: Whitehall HOA

Friends of Garden \$10

Level 1 membership \$20

Level 2 membership \$50

Whitehall Homes for Sale

5943 Sentinel Dr 2 BDRM	\$139,000
5805 Sentinel Dr 3 BDRM	\$139,500
1710 Falls Church Rd 3 BDR	\$165,000
1723 Falls Church Rd 4 BDRM	\$169,900
6029 Sentinel Dr 3 BDRM	\$170,000
1833 Falls Church Rd 3 BDRM	\$179,900

Contributed by Carolyn Andrews

Water Conservation Info

We 're all concerned about the new water billing system. What can you do to make a difference?

Did you know this about average water usage?

- Shower: 25 gallons
- Brushing Teeth: 10 gallons
- Bath: 36 gallons
- Toilet Flush: 6 gallons
- Hand Dishwashing: 30 gallons
- Auto Dishwasher: 16 gallons
- Shaving: 20 gallons
- Washing Hands: 2 gallons



Take Pride in our Community Garden!

Wonderful things are growing in the garden! Great compost, flowers, vegetables, and gathering places. But a sour note has intruded. Over and over the residents gathered there to plant, harvest, and just enjoy socializing have had to spend time cleaning up the dog poop. It's not that we don't like dogs, but we are really sad when their owners don't care enough to clean up after them. The excrement left behind is very obvious in this enclosed space.

As a result, the Board passed a motion at the May meeting prohibiting the use of the garden area by dogs and their owners. In our original survey of residents that sought to determine how the tennis court area could be repurposed, residents were adamant that we NOT use it as a dog park. There is a dog park right across the road at Exchange Park, and we urge dog owners to make use of that city-owned facility. Please respect our area as a garden and community gathering place, not a dog run.

Update on Painting Schedule

The crew of carpenters have just 3 more homes to prepare for painting on the south side of Falls Church, and then will move up to the Spring Forest entrance and begin there with the 6000's. Another item of interest; the Board has approved three new house colors to add to our palette: two lighter shades of blue, as well as a dark brick shade to replace the red that has not weathered well. If your home is due to be painted soon, ask Cleve Gaines (painter) to show

Wanted Cycling Companion

Cycling companion for fun and exercise, weekdays @ sunrise. Please contact Marya - mmetivier619@gmail.com if you would like to ride with me.



General Swimming Pool Rules

Pool parking is located on the east side of the pool adjacent to the maintenance building. Parking is prohibited along Sentinel Drive or on grass or natural areas.

Entrance to the swimming pool requires a special key. Keys are available from the management company for \$10.00. No keys are issued to homeowners with delinquent dues.

Swimming is permitted between dawn and dusk. There is no lifeguard on duty. Swim at your own risk. Diving is prohibited.

A parent or other responsible adult must accompany children under 16 years of age at all times.

Swimmers must shower each and every time before entering the pool.

Wear appropriate swim attire in the pool. No cut off jeans, etc.

Stay off safety ropes and buoys.

Do not run in the pool area; rough play is prohibited.

Do not swim with open wounds, sores or skin infections.

A posted "CLOSED" sign means no swimmers are allowed in the pool area.

Glass containers are not permitted in pool area.

Put trash in containers. Do not litter the pool area.

Do not allow pets in the pool area.

Conduct endangering the welfare of others is prohibited.

Please refrain from using loud and obscene language in the pool area.

Loud radios are not allowed.

One homeowner's family may bring up to four guests to the pool. Verbally clear with a board member more than four guests at one time. The homeowner must make the request and not the child of the homeowner. Members are responsible for the guest's actions at the pool.

The pool facilities enhance the Whitehall community. All residents should take pride and responsibility in enforcing these rules. Point out infractions to the offending party. The Board may take punitive action if deemed necessary.

Vandalism will not be tolerated. Report criminal activity immediately to the authorities.