

From the President's Corner

WHITEHALL CREPE
MYRTLES JULY 2010

You've probably been wondering if the new newsletter ran out of steam! We have every intention of making this a monthly newsletter, but the month of June was so busy with other Whitehall matters that we have resorted to a "June-July edition".

One milestone has almost been met. Our database of email addresses is almost complete, so the newsletter can now reach almost everyone via email. We will begin mailing copies each month to the few residents who requested a hard copy. If by chance your computer dies (it

does happen!) please give Renee a call so that we will know you need to be put on the mailing list. It is so exciting to see these improvements in our ability to communicate!

Our next innovation will be short bulletins via email (I'm trying to come up with a catchy title) to alert residents about a small problem or change in established practice. We won't mail out each of those, but make copies to send out with the newsletter. A recent addition to our Web site is a form for residents who wish to make any landscaping changes around their home. If you click on "Living in Whitehall" and scroll down to **forms** you'll find a form labeled "Landscape Changes". Many thanks to Dave Shogren, our Web Master. What did we do before we had the Internet!

It is also exciting to walk through Whitehall and see all the improvements homeowners are making: new patios, decks, windows, and fences. Gifted

gardeners have done wonderful things around their homes! Take time to walk through clusters you haven't visited before. I received an unsolicited response last week when I told a co-worker where I lived; beautiful development in "You live in the most Raleigh!" The Whitehall Board is doing its best to live up that compliment, and meet your requests for repairs as quickly as possible.

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35th Anniversary

2011 will mark the 35th anniversary of our Whitehall Community.

Consideration is being given to special activities that could be done throughout the year. Let us know your thoughts.

Anyone interested in serving on a planning committee may contact a WHOA Board Member.

A Resident's View

In recent months I have been doing US Census work in various areas of Raleigh. One thing I have observed over these months is how extremely fortunate we are to live in this Association. The condition of our units far exceeds many I've seen, plus the maintenance work that is done is very excellent. I watched one individual try to nail a replacement 2X4 stud about 10" long with seven nails in a matter of 1/2 hour. It was unbelievable. This was a much newer townhouse than ours. Persons here have a sense of community. We have neighbors that know and care about us. We are blessed to be a part of the Whitehall community.

Marlene VandeBerg

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Next HOA Board Meeting is Monday, August 19, 2010. Meeting starts at 6:30 pm and will be held in the Meeting Room across from the pool. The HOA Regular Board Meeting is held on the third Monday of each month. Reminder signs are posted each month at each Whitehall entrance.

President's Corner and More

President's Corner (Continued)

We have been truly blessed here in Whitehall to have escaped any rush of foreclosures or many units put on the market. We do not function like a bank that has a cushion of investors. It is very difficult to face putting a lien on someone's property for non-payment of dues, but it is the only way we can preserve a balanced budget.

The Board wants to send a very special Thank You to Ruthie Ten Braak at 1825 for taking on the job of watering

the plants around the pool! In addition, she is baking wonderful goodies for the crowd at our monthly meetings. We are so lucky to have volunteers that will pitch in to help whenever and wherever needed. Viva la Whitehall!

Toni Cambier

Keeping Cool

For many of you who have second story bedrooms, you will have found the heat level can get uncomfortable. It's a wake-up call to have someone check your ductwork and perhaps install a booster blower on your system.

This can be pricey, and you may be interested in another option. As you know, window air conditioners are not allowed in Whitehall, but the Board has approved an alternative unit called a portable Air Conditioner. It typically cools one room, is small, and can be rolled from one room to another. A connecting hose vents through a 10" opening (screened, of course) in the window, and is barely visible from the outside. **See page 4 for the rules and regulations on this alternative.**

WH HOA

Board of Directors

Current officers

President: Toni Cambier

VP: Glenn Abbey

Secretary: Rick Brown

Treasurer: Pat Summers

Karen Kistler

Marya Metivier

Lisa Williams

Plans for the Parking Lots and Sidewalks

Parking Place Numbers

Parking place numbers are going to be repainted this summer. We have done our homework and found the correct type of paint to use in marking parking places. This rubberized paint should last much longer than the type used last time. Cleve Gaines, our trusty house painter, will be doing the painting.

Sidewalks

Last year we discovered a company, Precision Sidewalks, that could regrind problem areas where sidewalks had heaved. This was infinitely less expensive than replacing with brick. We asked them to survey our entire property, evaluating all the sidewalks, and set up a long term (several years) plan to take care of all areas. At

the Board meeting Monday night, we decided to immediately tackle the area with the largest number of critical squares of pavement. It starts at Spring Forest, on the even numbered side of Sentinel, and extends back to Falls Church Rd., at a cost of \$7,500. Next year, we will budget for two more areas, and the third year will see

Garden Club News

Annual Beds - The GC has continued its volunteer efforts to keep the Spring Forest entrance watered and cleaned up during this hot weather. The summer lantana, vinca, sweet potato vine and begonias seem to be doing well. The Sentinel Drive extension on Falls Church Road is enjoying the burst of color from the caladiums that were planted under the Whitehall sign.

Community Garden - The GC has continued to develop plans to repurpose the tennis courts into an evolving community garden. Removal of the ground tape and all nails from the tape as well as a thorough raking and weeding of the courts has been. Four beds have been built and are being prepped as sample beds.

5th Monday Meetings

To be more inclusive, the GC has decided to try to use the 5th of each month as the meeting date. **Time will remain at 6:30 pm.** The next meeting is **August 5th** and once again will be poolside. Please feel free to attend!

In Memory of

Susan Ragan Pyburn



Our deepest sympathy goes to our neighbor and friend Rick Pyburn (6017 Sentinel Drive) and their two adult boys, Eric and Adam, as well as their entire family, on the loss of our longtime Whitehall resident and friend, Susan Pyburn.

Susan Ragan Pyburn of Raleigh passed away Thursday, May 6, 2010 at the age of 54. A loving wife, mother, daughter and friend, Susan touched the lives of everyone she came in contact with through her perseverance and quiet selflessness. She was simple in spirit, and will be remembered for the loving compassion she showed to all of her family and friends.

Susan is preceded in death by her father, Charles Eric Ragan and by her sister, Charleen Ragan Snipes. Susan is survived by her husband, Rick Pyburn; sons, Adam Pyburn, and Eric Pyburn, his wife, Stephanie; her mother, Clara C. Ragan, her father-in-law, Jack Pyburn Sr.; and mother-in-law, Leah Pyburn.

A funeral service will be held 1 p.m. Monday at Brown-Wynne Funeral Home, 1701 East Millbrook Road, Raleigh. Family will be receiving guests immediately following the service. A mausoleum service will be held 3:30 p.m. at Pine Forest Memorial Gardens, 770 Stadium Drive, Wake Forest.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in Susan's memory, to Susan G. Komen for the Cure . Condolences can be sent to the family through www.brownwynne.com.

Keeping Cool: Portable AC Units

K. Air Conditioners: Window air conditioners are not permitted within the Whitehall community. Portable air conditioners, which consist of a main unit that stands on the floor, and an exhaust air vent that mounts in the lower part of a window, are allowed. This provision should be regarded as a temporary measure. Owners experiencing inadequate upstairs heating and cooling are urged to have a professional assessment of their problem. Rules for portable air conditioners will be strictly enforced:

Only one portable air conditioner unit per house. The exhaust air vent must be properly installed, and be maintained in a neat and clean manner. Placement is limited to second-floor level. No air exhaust vents in first floor and basement windows. The exhaust air vent may be installed no earlier than April 1st. The exhaust air vent must be removed from the window by October 1st. Select a window that is least visible from the street and courtyard. Units must have internal water collection. Drainage lines to the outside are prohibited.

Millbrook Exchange Park

One of the many advantages of living in Whitehall is our close proximity to excellent facilities and community resources. Certainly the Millbrook Exchange Park falls into the category of “aren’t we lucky to have this in our backyard!”

With a world class covered swimming pool to provide swimming opportunities around the year regardless of weather to the wonderful tennis courts and dog park, we are fortunate to have these within walking distance.

If you haven’t already, do check out the Raleigh Parks and Recreation website for all the details on classes, hours, fees, and services.

www.parks.raleighnc.gov
919-831-6640

Remember Your Trash and Recycling Bins

We all know when it is Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning, yes, our Sentinel Drives and Falls Church Road are lined with our lovely green trash and recycle bins. Where does a week go!

Let’s all try to remember that our rules require all bins to be removed from the street by Wednesday evening. If you plan to be out of town that night, arrange with a neighbor to remove yours and we are sure you will have a chance to reciprocate in the future! Thanks to all for honoring this each week!



Crepe Myrtle July 2010
Photos Courtesy of Carol Durham

Say hey, what’s in the bag?

Never mind dog lovers.... we all know what’s in the bag when we see you walking your doggies in WH!

A reminder to our wonderful dog owners, please continue to be kind to all of your neighbors and our common grounds by always having that little plastic bag in your hands just in case you need to do a little cleanup from Fido! Not only is this a WH rule, it’s the law of the City of Raleigh. Thanks again!