

Down in the Valley

The Newsletter of the Hope Valley Neighborhood Association

SPRING, 1995

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

TOTALLY FREE

ANNUAL MEETING FILLS ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

The Hope Valley Neighborhood Association held its second annual meeting Oct. 11, 1994. Members were hungry for information on the proposed high density apartment complex proposed for Chapel Hill Road. The concern was apparent on all faces as Rita Musante, HVNA President painted a clear



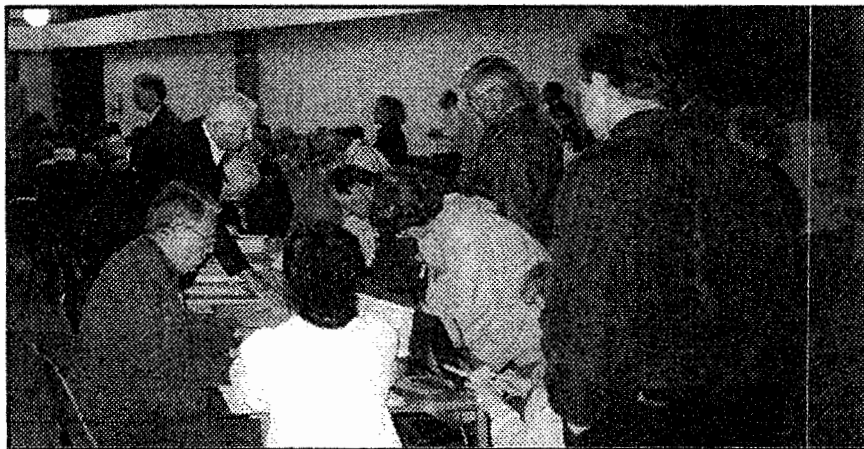
Members listen to report on Mews Expansion.

picture of how we will be impacted by this development.

Neighbors viewed the Development Plan, asked questions and discussed concerns. Sandy Ogburn, City Council Member and Hope Valley neighbor

(Sheridan Rd.) took to the podium to field questions. In response to neighborhood concern, the Hope Valley Board discussed ideas for mounting an organized effort to oppose this rezoning.

Other business included the election of a new Hope Valley Neighborhood Association Board of Directors for 1995. After refreshments and socializing, the meeting adjourned.



Aubrey and Becky King, Mac Smith, and Elsa Horn, collect membership dues.

MEWS REZONING TOP PRIORITY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION

The Mews Developers including Realtor Buddy Whitfield and attorney Brenda Foreman are pressing forward.

Despite being voted down by the planning Board the first time around, the developers have made minor adjustments

and have limboed under every required stick to meet the letter (if not the spirit) of the law. The second submission did gain the approval of the City Planning Board.

Both Hope Valley and Knollwood oppose this rezoning for an apartment complex emptying onto Chapel Hill Road. Our neighborhood consensus is that this development would not provide a smooth transition to our community and would have a negative impact. At present, everything along Chapel Hill Road is single family zoning with the exception of Innesfree which is condominium. The proposed 87 UNIT apartment complex is not in keeping with this zoning pattern. It is far too dense and with only one

**SHOW YOUR
OPPOSITION TO
THE MEWS
REZONING.**

**WE NEED YOUR
HELP. ATTEND
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING
FEBRUARY 20TH.**

Continued on page 2

Beautification

The Hope Valley Gates at Dover and Windsor Way continue to be maintained thanks to generous donations from the neighborhood gardens clubs as well as funds allocated from our Association. We will continue to need financial support to pay for mulch, weeding, feeding and flowers.

Our bulb planting project did not work out. Unfortunately, areas which need beautification do not have access to electricity which is needed for the drill bit bulb planter.

Thank you to Jeanne Henriksen who will be our new beautification chairperson taking over for Debbie Carver.

Let's give our new chairman our support. If you have an interest in the maintenance and beautification of our neighborhood, please call her at 489-8762.

Our continued thanks to all the joggers and walkers who share their pride of ownership in Hope Valley by picking up litter on their daily workout.

**Tip for this month: Jeanne says . . .
Trim your crepe myrtle!**

MEWS REZONING TOP PRIORITY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION

continued from page 1

entrance/exit would place an undue and unsafe traffic burden on Chapel Hill Road. Furthermore, the project opens the possibility of the state requiring one or two turn lanes on Chapel Hill Road. According to the state, the developer does not have enough land to meet state standards for two turn lanes. Therefore, if this plan were approved, the developer might have to acquire the right of way to construct the turn lanes. If the adjacent property owners would not sell, then the city would condemn their land!

The vision we have for this piece of property is either single family homes, patio homes or a far far less dense multi-family development than what is proposed.

What can you do to preserve your neighborhood? Attend the City Council hearing scheduled for Feb. 20th. and volunteer to call neighbors. We must have a **BIG MEMBERSHIP TURNOUT** at City Council!

PROPOSED REZONING IS A CLEAR HARM TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

by John Haywood

At last month's Zoning Commission hearing, Chairman Joseph Haenn pointed out that whatever you can say good or bad about this development, there is going to be one horrible mess on Chapel Hill Road by reason of the one egress at the Windsor Way gates and the lack of egress onto Williamsburg. Chapel Hill Road is not a major transit route and can't accommodate the traffic this project will produce.

The city planning staff has approved this multi-bedroomed apartment complex whose only egress is directly across from the Windsor Way gates. It is now up to the City Council.

With some 87 units planned, the traffic flow from this development may equal or exceed that of old Hope Valley. What impact will this project have on Hope Valley motorists if approved by the City Council?

1 TURNING LEFT INTO WINDSOR WAY WOULD BECOME HAZARDOUS. Because of topography there are visibility problems at this site. Traffic turning left into the apartment complex will block the view of those wishing to turn left into Windsor Way. When left turning traffic has difficulty seeing the opposing traffic, an unsafe situation is created. Safety considerations aside, a bottleneck at busy times is guaranteed. If you can't see well or at all, how are you going to proceed safely or in a timely fashion?

2 TURNING LEFT OUT OF WINDSOR GATES will become hazardous particularly at rush hour. If the project is approved you will have to yield to the dominant traffic on Chapel Hill Road and the traffic pouring right out of the apartment complex.

3 TURNING RIGHT OUT OF WINDSOR GATES WILL BE SLOWED

4 CHAPEL HILL RD TRAFFIC FROM SHANNON RD TO NORTHAMPTON WILL BE GREATLY SLOWED

The proposed complex has a number of deficiencies that negatively impact the surrounding residential areas. These deficiencies were cited by the four out of six members of the zoning committee who voted Jan. 10 with your neighborhood association and against the developers and the city planning staff.

The developers are now appealing to the city council - a council desperate to increase development and increase the city's tax base. Those of you who attended the meeting at St. Stephen's Church in the fall know that the odds are not in our favor **UNLESS WE ALL ACT TOGETHER AND ATTEND THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 20TH.**

The developers of this apartment complex are hoping you'll stay home. For those of us who haven't the time, or who can't make the time to attend this important meeting, well....there'll be lots of time in the future to meet together...in our cars...as we wait....at and near the Windsor Way Gate.

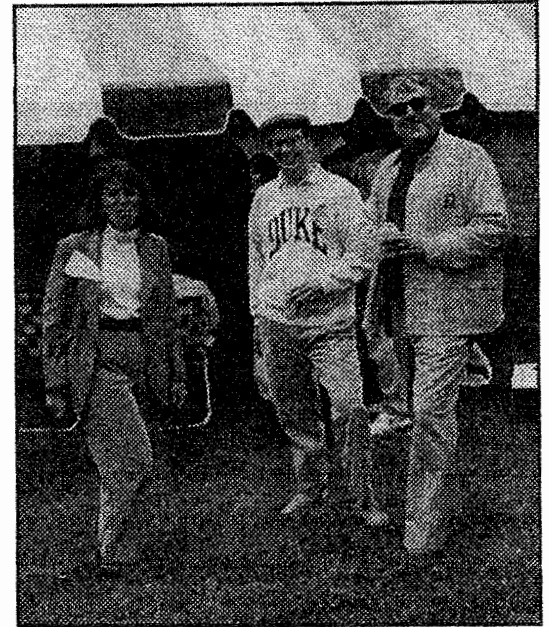
For heaven's sake, **BE THERE!**

NEIGHBORHOOD FOOTBALL TAILGATE PARTY A BIG SUCCESS

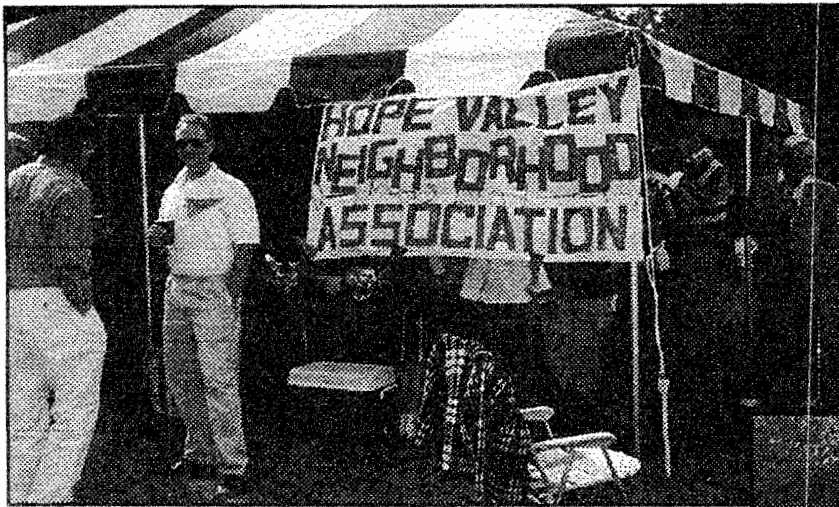
by Elsa Horn

A joyous New Year to All from the Social Committee. We have experienced our 2nd annual Duke Football Tailgate party on Nov. 5, 1994.

Your social Committee wants you to remember we are still joinable. Call Mary Anne or Ken Zabrycki 490-1008 and be Sociable.

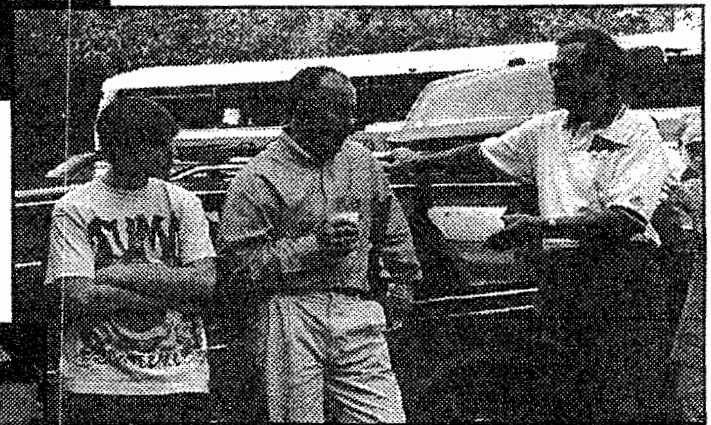


The Day – weather Remarkable



Attendance – extraordinarily Incredible

What a great day – fun and Memorable



Company – delightfully Likeable



Food – gourmet Delectable



The Game – with Duke's win Excitable



If you missed doing this with us – Shameable

HOPE VALLEY BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1995

Rita Musante- President
Brenda Kinney Vice President
Ruth Shaffer - Secretary
Dot and Ed Kennedy - Treasurer
Elsa Horn- Membership and Social Chairman
John Rasmussen - City Hall
Millie Hershner - Neighborhood Watch
Aubrey King
Hale Sweeney

Thank you outgoing board members Mac Smith and Riley Stallings without whom we could not have gotten this association off the ground.

Membership

The HVNA membership has grown in one year to 900 strong! Isn't that astounding? We know it doesn't seem possible—but a year has slipped by - now it's time to renew your commitment by filling out the form below and enclosing your check.

The association needs members willing to volunteer. If you can help please indicate your interest on the membership form below. Thank you for your support.



Membership Application 1995

Application Renewal

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Comments: _____

Mail \$5.00 for each member (\$10 per couple) to: Dot & Ed Kennedy, 3804 Churchill Cr., Durham, 27707
Make Checks Payable to: Hope Valley Neighborhood Association

Please check the committee you will work on:

Neighborhood Watch
 I Will Serve on Board

Newsletter
 Crime Council

Neighborhood Gatherings
 Other

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Hope Valley Neighborhood Association
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Durham, NC 27707

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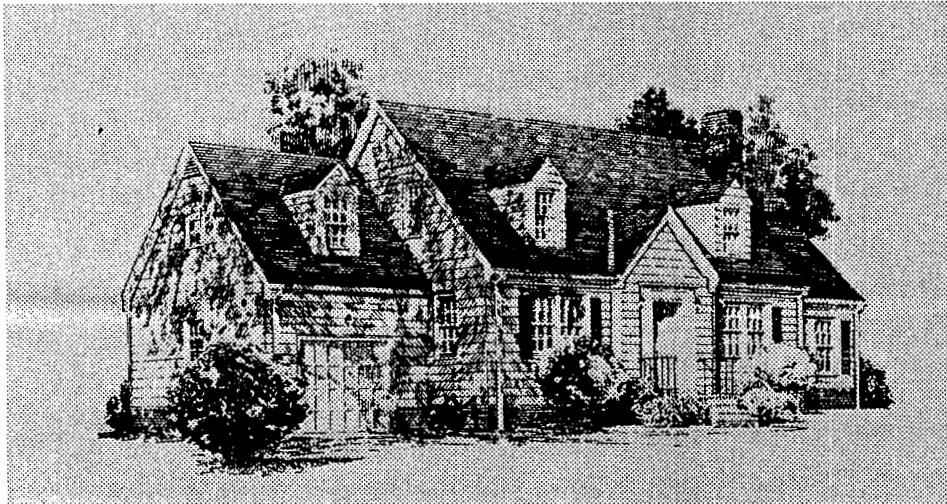
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HOPE VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION HAS SUCCESSFUL YEAR

By Rita Musante

As outgoing President of this Association, I feel very positive about its life and future. Two years ago we began with a group of six concerned neighbors; today the boundaries of the Hope Valley Neighborhood Association include old and new Hope Valleys as well as Surrey Green. We have organized ourselves into a membership of over 850 with an active Board of Directors, bylaws, and committee structure. The Community Watch program is making a difference. The Duke Football Tailgate Party, sponsored for the past two years by the social committee, is becoming a popular autumn tradition.

What is particularly important is that City Hall knows we are out here. When neighborhood concerns about land use, development, rezoning, traffic or crime arise, we now have a viable means of disseminating information, gaining a consensus, and using our combined numbers to influence decisions which affect us all. The success of our efforts on The Mews rezoning attests to this. Simply put, we have a voice!

I am pleased to have helped start this organization. As I turn the office over to a new President, I urge you to remember that southwestern Durham is growing and changing rapidly. Many more issues will be coming our way. Let's build on what we have started. **Keep this Neighborhood Association energized and active.**

Thank you for being supportive with your membership dues. Now I ask you please to volunteer your time and ideas so that we can continue successfully as the largest and best neighborhood association in Durham.

NO MORE MEWS APARTMENTS

CITY COUNCIL DENIES REZONING REQUEST

Thanks to the efforts of the Hope Valley and Knollwood Neighborhood Associations, and the large number of Hope Valley residents who attended the City Council hearing, a rezoning request for 87 apartments on Chapel Hill Road, across from the Windsor Way gates, was denied. In a unanimous 12-0 decision, City Council blocked this development as one not in keeping with the density, transition, or land use plans for the area.

Council members Skip London, Eric Larsen, Sandy Ogburn, John Lloyd and Kim Griffin were instrumental in helping us to win this decision.

Ably represented by Brenda Kinney and John Haywood, the HVNA, along with the Knollwood Neighborhood Association, argued that The Mews Apartment rezoning plan, with rows of apartments placed at right angles, and its large expanse of buildings and pavement, did not provide a smooth transition to single family homes.

Furthermore, the problem of a proposed single entrance/egress onto Chapel Hill Road would create traffic congestion and safety problems. The decision was greeted by a standing ovation from the packed chambers.

CHURCH REZONING REQUEST DENIED

Homeowners on Barcelona Avenue south of Swarthmore Road felt jeopardized when they learned that the Miracle Life Christian Center planned to build a 24,000 square foot sanctuary, with 174 parking spots, on Hope Valley Road. This building would clear all trees on the six acre heavily-wooded site. Due to the small lots and narrow back yards, cars would be parked thirty to forty feet from surrounding homes. A likelihood of week-night services, revivals and other meetings, could mean increased traffic from incoming buses and cars. The potential loss of security to adjacent properties and a decline in property values was of serious concern to the neighborhoods surrounding this site.

Howard Shang, representing Barcelona Avenue and Hope Valley Farms, successfully fought this rezoning request before the Durham Board of Adjustment. The request for a special use permit for the church was denied and affected homeowners were pleased with the result.



REPORT ON THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

by Millie Hershner

There have been two series of car break-ins in Hope Valley since October. The first occurred between midnight and 5 a.m. on January 18th when various items were stolen from at least eight unlocked cars on Northampton, Wentworth and St. Mark's Roads. Rick Adams, whose cellular phone was stolen, tracked down the name of the thief by calling the numbers on his cellular phone bill. However, the police were reluctant to issue an arrest warrant because he was the only victim who had filed a police report. Fortunately, due to our Neighborhood Watch network, we knew the names of the other victims; after they were persuaded to file reports, an arrest warrant was issued. Therefore IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REPORT ALL BREAK-INS AND THEFTS TO THE POLICE. In addition, don't fail to report all thefts and suspicious activity to YOUR block captain, who will then relay such information to the Head Block Captain (currently Millie Hershner, 493-4321) and to the other block members.

The second series of car break-ins occurred March 23, again after midnight. The Liddles, on Darwin Road, heard their dog barking about 2:30 a.m. They called the police and the culprits fled, but they had already broken into several cars. Again, most, if not all, cars were unlocked.

Another concern: would block captains and other persons who have the circulating Neighborhood Watch videos please return them as instructed, or call 493-1321 for a pickup? Also, if you are a block captain who is planning to move, please give prompt notice so that a replacement can be secured.

Enclosed with this issue is a list of block captains by streets and numbers. The blank spaces indicate no one in that neighborhood has agreed to serve as yet; if you would like to volunteer, please call Millie Hershner.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE PLANS

by Elsa Horn

It's Time to Leap Over the Seasons: Begin Thinking about the Annual Duke Tailgate Party

Planning is already taking place for the exciting Tailgate Party which will probably be scheduled as a November event. Look for ALL THE DETAILS in the Autumn Newsletter. Tickets will be available at the October meeting.

For the past two years we have enjoyed fabulous food and delighted in new and renewed friendships on these occasions. We hope a good group, young and old, will join us once again for this FANTASTIC FUN EVENT. Be with your neighbors as we cheer the successful Duke Blue Devils on to another win!

The Social Committee needs more helpers! To join the committee, please call Ken or Mary Anne Zabrycki at 490-1008 or Elsa Horn at 490-5436.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

We Need You

reports Elsa Horn

Please look at the list below and see if YOU have a special talent that would be of use in the **continued preservation and beautification** of Hope Valley as it grows and welcomes new neighbors.

We Need You

and we ask you to look at the proposed slate listed here, noting that we have many positions open at this time.

1. **President: Brenda Kinney**
2. **Vice President:**
3. **Secretary:**
4. **Representative to Monthly Inter-Neighborhood Council:** X
5. **City Hall Committee Chairman:** X
6. **Historian:**
7. **Treasurers: Dot and Ed Kennedy**
8. **Membership: Elsa Horn**
9. **Beautification: Jeanne Henricksen**
10. **Neighborhood Watch: Millie Hershner**
11. **Social Committee: Ken and Mary Anne Zabrycki**

We Look Forward to Hearing from You

Please send your volunteer intent or recommendations to: Elsa Horn (490-5436) or to Hale Sweeny (489-1800).



BEAUTIFICATION NOTES

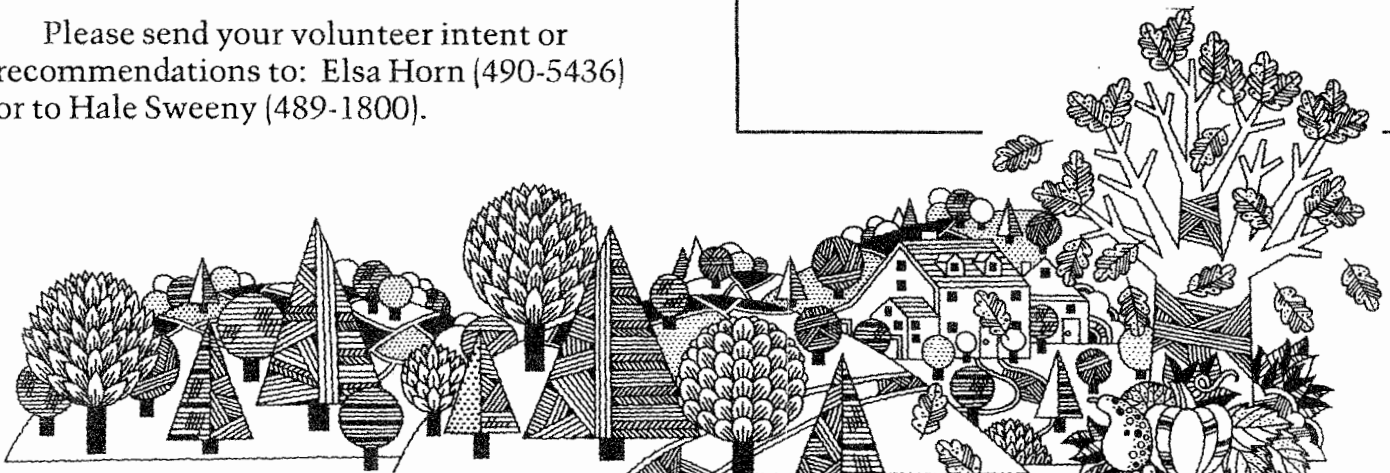
by Jeanne Henricksen

Did you know that tying, bending, braiding or removing the foliage from your daffodils prior to twelve weeks after blooming will inhibit your blooms next year?

If your azaleas have outgrown their location, prune after blooming. Follow a tall branch into center of shrub and cut off at a junction. No evidence of pruning will be visible.

To all walkers: thanks for carrying your plastic bags and picking up unsightly trash. Keep up the good work!

To all DOG-WALKERS: PLEASE abide by our leash laws. Carry a scooper and plastic bag and USE them! Respect for all of your neighbors and their properties makes for a more caring and friendlier community. Nothing enhances a family-oriented neighborhood more than a nurturing spirit on the part of each householder. Equip yourself and your pet for each walk through lovely Hope Valley.



**HOPE VALLEY
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- Elsa Horn- Membership and Social Chairman
- John Rasmussen - City Hall
- Millie Hershner - Neighborhood Watch
- Jeannie Henriksen - Beautification
Aubrey King
- Hale Sweeney
- Marion Salinger - Editor-in-Chief

Membership . . .

A Call from the Treasurers and the Membership Chairman

"How Quickly Time Flies..."

It is hard to believe, but the Hope Valley Neighborhood Association is now two years old! We are proud to announce that we have over 850 members...and are continually growing. That's progress. However, in reviewing our ledgers the Membership Committee has found that some members have failed to renew – or perhaps simply forgotten to renew – their affiliation for this year.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR RECORDS TO SEE IF YOU HAVE SENT US A CHECK FOR YOUR SECOND YEAR RENEWAL.

"How Quickly Time Flies..."

We will be contacting you soon to remind you. Your voice and presence is needed and your five dollar dues contribution is a visible sign of your interest.

Membership Application & Renewal

Application Renewal

Dues for period Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1996

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Comments: _____

Mail \$5.00 for each member (\$10 per couple) to: Dot & Ed Kennedy, 3804 Churchill Cr., Durham, 27707
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Please check the committee you will work on:

- Neighborhood Watch
- Newsletter
- Neighborhood Gatherings
- I Will Serve on Board
- Crime Council
- Other

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