

# Down in the Valley

The Newsletter of the Hope Valley Neighborhood Association

FEBRUARY 1996

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

TOTALLY FREE

## Make Sure They Know We're Here!

*Key Words from President Brenda Kinney*

Over the past several months neighbors have stopped me to ask what I planned to do as president of the Hope Valley Neighborhood Association. I always give the same reply: "I intend to make sure they know we are here!"

As your new incumbent, I view my role as advocate, lobbyist and spokesman for our neighborhood. I want to be certain "downtown" officials and government agencies hear and understand our concerns. Whether the issue be one of zoning enforcement, changes in zoning classifications, police and safety problems, traffic and street maintenance or real estate taxes, we must be heard.

When Rita Musante and the past Board constituted this association, they envisioned it as an organized forum for the civic affairs of the community. We are now the largest neighborhood association in Durham. As a result, before the City Council or other officials take action on matters directly affecting our area we have the opportunity and obligation to speak as a unified voice.

This year HVNA Executive Board members will be monitoring closely the actions of the new City Council. We will not hesitate to speak out about crime and safety concerns, garbage collection, traffic problems, zoning enforcement and any problems at Shannon Plaza and

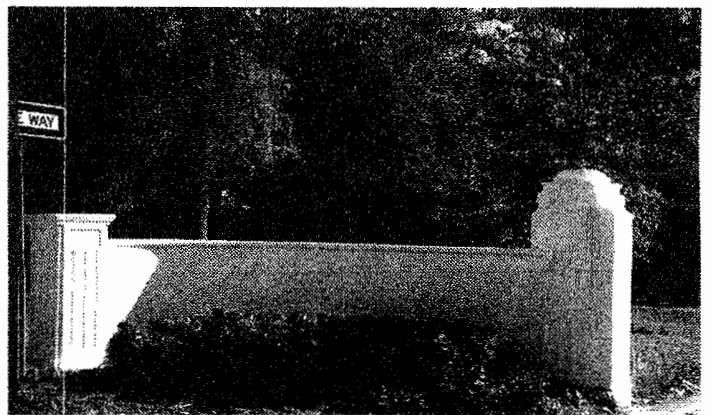
*Continued on page 4*

## The Gates of Hope Valley Are Yours

You own a portion of Hope Valley history: the curving gates which mark the entrances to Windsor Way and to Dover Road. On the city books these white classical structures are listed as belonging to all property owners in Hope Valley. This means that the Hope Valley Neighborhood Association, representing all its homeowners—including you—has the final financial responsibility for maintenance: the painting, repairing and planting which can be the pride of all residents.

To protect our/your property, vigilance is required against defacing of the gates. In the event such acts are observed, relaying the following information to any member of the Executive Board of the Association will provide valuable testimony should insurance be available for damages:

- ◆ The car license number of any vehicle involved
- ◆ Name and telephone number of any truck involved
- ◆ Copy of accident report if police are called
- ◆ Name of police officer at scene
- ◆ Photograph of damage if camera is available



In some past instances when the gates have been hit by cars or trucks, it has been possible to collect insurance for repairs. Your eyes and awareness of any such occurrences can save calling upon property owners (through this Association) to foot the bills.

***Save the gates; they are your property  
and your heritage.***

# Reminders and Reports on the Neighborhood Watch

by Millie Hershner

Our grateful thanks go to the Block Captains for taking the time to report so effectively on incidents of crime and vandalism in their neighborhoods. Since the Durham Police Department no longer supplies a copy of their crime reports, our only source of such intelligence is provided by the Block Captains' network. Therefore, if you see, or are the victim of, any crime or act of vandalism, please notify the police first by calling 911. Next, report to your Block Captain. These dedicated members will then relay the incident to the Head Block Captain (currently Millie Hershner, 493-4321). A list of all Block Captains was included as an insert in the Spring newsletter.

## Incident Report Summary for 1995

One break-in was reported on Devon Road last June. There were several incidents of malicious vandalism between June and September. These included various destructive acts on cars, mainly on Colville, St. Mark's and Chippenham in the new section of Hope Valley.

Between October and December there were several

reported occurrences of seasonal door decorations and flags being stolen from front doors and porches on Wentworth, St. Mark's, Regent and Bentley. In addition, thefts were reported from unlocked cars on Wentworth and Acornridge Court shortly after Thanksgiving.

Would all Block Captains check your video libraries for missing copies of the police video? The tape is unmarked, but the jacket is white with a wide black band next to a narrow red band; the label is TDK HS. Please give me a call and I will gladly pick up the copies.

## New Block Captains

New Block Captains are: Bonnie Cox (493-3935) for 3917-3946 St. Mark's; Nona Schumanich (419-8420) for 3401-3414 Rugby and all of Trafalgar. Regent Road is being covered jointly by Robin Marin (489-2062) and Shirley Crumpton (489-9466). This leaves only Westover 3506-3522, and Buckingham Road 3000-3117 without a Block Captain. The Laniers are moving from Hathaway Road, so there will soon be a need there. Please call me if you would like to volunteer. ❦



## Beautification Notes

by Jeanne Henrickson

What a lovely white-blanketed wonderland we have experienced this winter season!

Let us hope some of our artistically-gifted neighbors took full advantage of the unusual sights to capture some part of the Hope Valley snowscape with palette and brush or camera!

Remember our feathered friends, the birds, during these months. Keep your feeders well replenished and your rewards will be immeasurable.

This is the time to **think spring**; prune only your crape myrtles now.

Forsythia, quince, spirea and azaleas can be snipped and forced to bloom, inside, very early. Just provide water, a little sun, and enjoy! ❦

## THIS AND THAT

Organizations centered within Hope Valley that wish to invite the community to free events and programs may send such announcements to Down in the Valley. They will be printed if space permits, always with an eye on the necessity of containing the Association's printing costs. The Board will rule on the suitability of the announcements.

A new appointment was made to the Board: that of Historian. Ruth Frank (Mrs. Michael) accepted this office and welcomes any suggestions for collection and format. Her telephone number is 489-1964.

The Board is interested in discussing ways of promoting "neighborliness" and providing a hospitable atmosphere for new residents when they move into Hope Valley. Look up and down your road and note whether there is a new neighbor on whom you have not yet called or invited for a cup of coffee or tea. Maybe you met them during the Snow Season! Send other suggestions to DOWN IN THE VALLEY so they can be shared.

The interesting photograph of the Windsor Way gate was taken for the Association by Prof. Helga W. Bessent, a friend from Duke Forest. The myriad shots of the 1995 Tallgate Party were snapped and assembled by Elsa Horn, our Membership Chairman. ❦



## **Are You In This Picture?**

### **All Ages Enjoyed The Third Annual Tailgate Party**

by Elsa Horn

This yearly gathering continues to be a wonderful way to socialize with neighbors, young and old. It is a time to meet the new people on your road and to renew other friendships.

**JOIN IN THE FUN NEXT YEAR.** Put a note on your calendar now to save space for the 1996 gathering (usually the end of October or first of November). There will be a special place reserved for us before the game and you will share delicious food and smiles.

*You Will Have A Grand Old Time Next Fall At The Tailgate Party, As You Can See From The Above!*

**HOPE VALLEY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1996**

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**Carry Van Zile - Secretary**

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**Millie Hershner - Neighborhood Watch**

**Hale Sweeney**

**Marion Salinger - Editor-in-Chief**

**Make Sure They Know We're Here!**

*continued from page 1*

South Square Mall. We will also work with the developers and owners of adjacent properties.

When neighbors have specific problems, ideas or suggestions, we urge you to raise them with any Board member, asking that they be placed upon the agenda of the next monthly Board meeting. If necessary, we will then be able to "fight City Hall" collectively. I look forward with enthusiasm to serving the Association and expect this year's Board will continue to expand and improve upon the excellent programs now in existence: the Neighborhood Watch, annual social events, beautification projects, the collection of neighborhood history, and the open channel provided by this newsletter. We are working for you, our friends and neighbors in this pleasant valley.

**Membership Application & Renewal**

Dues for period Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1997

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

Newsletter

Neighborhood Gatherings

I Will Serve on Board

Crime Council

Other

**Hope Valley Neighborhood Association**  
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Durham, NC 27707

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