

President's Corner



A WHITEHALL KIND OF SPRING IN 2010

Hasn't the rain this week been wonderful? The azaleas gave us their usual glowing display, but now that the rains have cleansed the air, all the lovely shades of green around us are just as welcome.

I've been out walking through the clusters of Whitehall, using the need to get everyone's email address to meet many delightful new neighbors. Since so much of my time is normally spent dealing with problems and "putting out fires", it's been great just getting to make new friends.

Next HOA Board Meeting is Monday, June 21, 2010. Meeting starts at 6:30 pm and will be held in the Meeting Room across from the pool. The

I do want to use this "bully pulpit" to pass on some very important messages that will save you money and make everyone's job easier. So here goes:

- Remember that "Flushables" are not really flushable! They do not dissolve as promised in the ads and clog our sewer lines, necessitating a call to the plumber (think dues \$\$\$!).

- Do not send your children to the pool by themselves. Unless they are at least 16, an adult must be there to supervise. There was a tragic drowning at a Raleigh pool last summer, and

HOA Regular Board Meeting is held on the third Monday of each month. Reminder signs are posted each month at each Whitehall entrance.

that pool even had a life-guard on duty (we do not). You may invite no more than 4 guests into the pool area at a time.

- If you have dogs – and it does often seem that Whitehall is doggy heaven – PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER THEM! If they are confined inside your fence for part of the day, remember that the "delightful" scent of all that poop is wafted across to your neighbors who are trying to enjoy sitting out on their deck. You have to be the responsible party!

And thank you for letting me vent.

Toni Cambier

35th Anniversary

2011 will mark the 35th anniversary of the Whitehall Community. Consideration is being given to special activities that could be done throughout the year. Let us know your thoughts.

Yard Sales

Per the WH rules and regulations, we are all reminded that yard sales are not allowed in the WH community.

PLEASE SEE

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SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN

MEMORY OF

BOB SLAGLE

PAST PRESIDENT

WHITEHALL HOA



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Pine Straw in the News: Toni Cambier

Pine straw has been a factor in two terrible fires during the last year, and the City Council has just passed a resolution that might affect Whitehall.

They have banned pine straw as mulch within 10 feet of multifamily rental units with flammable siding. Although some of our units are single-family dwellings, the majority are duplexes and many are rental units. Our siding is flammable, although not as serious a problem as the vinyl siding that figured in the two aforementioned fires. Fire Departments are working with

the state Building Code officials to extend the ruling to private family dwellings.

The ruling will not take effect until December 1, 2010, but it would seem practical to begin thinking about it now if you are planning to put any mulch around your unit. Our other concern about mulch near the foundation, of course, is to discourage termites. Here are some guidelines to keep in mind:

Termites live in the soil all around us. They are attracted to decaying matter and mois-

ture. The best thing you can do to discourage their entry into your unit is to put down a moisture barrier (plastic ground cloth) before you put down any kind of mulch. The best termite-resistant mulches have been proven to be cypress and redwood (not to be confused with ordinary hardwood that is dyed red). Melaleuca wood mulch is the best if you can find it. Gravel is an excellent alternative.

We will continue to have the landscaper put down pine straw mulch in the areas at the entrances, around the pool,

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

Pine Straw (continued)

and along the roadways as long as it doesn't violate the 10 ft. rule; it is still the most economical mulch to use.

In the fall the Board will consider how we can work with residents to remove any pine straw that is close to units before the December deadline. Watch upcoming newsletters for more information.

Pool Area Spruced Up

On Saturday, May 1st, the shrubbery, beds and walkway area leading to the pool were the focus of the WH Garden Club volunteers. A thorough pruning of the shrubs as well as raking up and removing of dead leaves and branches was done before new pine straw was used to revitalize this focal area of our community.

Thanks to Karen Kistler, Glenn Abbey, Lisa Williams, and Tom Williams for their time donated to this beautification project.

Additional weeding, raking, and sprucing up remains to be done to complete this project. Look for a date for this and if you have time to help, the more the merrier!

Garden Club News: Carol Durham

Annual Beds - The fall/winter pansies in the front entry annual beds were rotated with spring/summer lantana, vinca, sweet potato vine and begonias. Soon we hope to have a vibrant and welcoming display of annuals at the front entrance. And the next time you pass the Sentinel Drive extension on Falls Church Road, be sure

and notice the burst of color from the caladiums that were planted under the Whitehall sign.

Community Garden - Plans are underway to temporarily convert the tennis courts into a community garden. Construction of the raised beds is being planned for sometime in mid-June. Thank you to

everyone who donated to the garden club's spring fundraiser. Because of your generosity the community garden will grace the tennis court area until the homeowner association is able to renovate the courts. Look for more information about the community garden in the next issue of the newsletter.

Submitted by Whitehall Resident, Mr. Lee Witcher

We were saddened to learn of the death of our neighbor and former Whitehall HOA board president, Bob Slagle. With permission from the News & Observer dated May 9, 2010, we have attached his obituary. Bob served three terms as our board president in the mid-nineties. Whitehall was grateful for his leadership and high ethical standards as we faced our many challenges during his tenure.

Of particular note were two major weather related events and the institution of term limits for elected Whitehall HOA officers. Hurricane Fran caused some devastating problems in 1996, and Bob and our Board interfaced with FEMA to get our subdivision cleaned up in a timely manner. The second event occurred when a record-setting snowstorm hit Raleigh. Again, our Board had to address some unusual circumstances in order to get Whitehall moving again.

Those of us who are members of this community would like to extend our condolences to Bob's family, and especially his wife, Beverly.



Obituary

Mr. Robert Edmond Slagle, 65, passed away 2:35 a.m., Thursday, May 6, 2010, at St John's Mercy Hospital in St Louis, MO. He was retired after a career of 38 years with IBM, 33 years dedicated to Store Systems product-development, point-of-sale and marketing management. Bob was a graduate of West Texas State A&M University.

The Texas native's dedicated love for his family was the vanguard throughout his life; and in death his family was by his side. Born in Dallas, TX, Bob was guided by his Father, Edmond Ralph Slagle, with patient love to strive for excellence with integrity which steered him throughout life. Bob's family roots began in western North Carolina before his country's independence and was a point of pride. A timeless gift he bestowed on his family is a profound understanding and knowledge of their family heritage, responsibilities, and love of country, which will be passed on to future generations.

When his grandchildren, Jason Christopher Slagle, Ryan Matthew Slagle and Nathaniel Bryce Ward, were asked what they remembered most about their papa they said, "He was so much fun." Dedication to his grandsons was shown in many ways but always with an undying sense of humor. His loved ones and friends will miss his timely wit. Whether building sandcastles or fishing, laughter was in the air.

Mr. Slagle is survived by his wife of 45 years, Beverly Burleson Slagle, daughter, Mandy Lynn Ward and husband, John Mark Ward of Raleigh; son Christopher Edmond Slagle and wife, Suzanne Lynn (Southard) Slagle of St. Louis, MO and three grandsons.

He is also survived by his loving mother, Marybel (Rankin) Slagle of Fredericksburg, TX, brother, Jody Glyn Slagle of Austin, TX. Services will be held 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 11th, at Trinity Baptist Church with Dr. G. Jeffery Roberts, Senior Pastor, officiating. The family will receive friends at the Trinity Baptist Chapel from 12 Noon to 1:00 pm. A graveside service will be held following the service at Historic Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh, NC, with Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, Mississippi Conference, United Methodist Church, officiating.

Arrangements through Brown-Wynne Funeral Home 300 Saint Mary's Street Raleigh, NC 27605. (919) 828-4311.

www.brownwynne.com