



30 Years Plus in Lake Claire: From Tie-Dye to Khaki

This occasional Clarion series highlights longtime residents of Lake Claire. This time we feature Bill Fleming, longtime resident of Harold Avenue. He wrote this letter to Lake Claire for our end-of-year party and to be published in the Clarion.

Dear Lake Clarions, Haroldiens, Neighbors, & Friends,

Greetings to one and all from the mountains of north Georgia, where we are now living, and regrettably unable to attend tonight's gathering. In our absence I have asked our neighbor, friend, and fellow Harold Avenue resident, Sharon Doochin, to read you this letter.

Words cannot fully express the great joy and gratitude we have for the time we spent in this amazing place in Lake Claire, surrounded by trees, green space, parks, streams, and people who

take seriously the meaning of being good neighbors and looking out for each other. This community has sustained us for the past sixteen years as we have raised our family (our youngest daughter was born on the back deck of our house on Harold Avenue), aided us through times when trees fell on power lines and the house itself, and created a safe and interesting place to raise kids: a place where diversity is cherished and differences in opinion, politics, and décor flourish.

There are so many experiences and anecdotes I could recall that exemplify the beauty and unique



Bill Fleming on Pedal Steel

qualities of Lake Claire that we have space for in this letter, but there is one that I think gets at the heart of what it has meant to us to live here.

Thirty five years ago, my partner at the time and I bought our place from Jerry Collette, a dear-
Cont. on p. 3

Tree Planting in Lake Claire

To conclude the 2015/2016 planting season, Lake Claire and Trees Atlanta are once again teaming up this March to plant trees along neighborhood right-of-ways and front yards. This time around, Trees Atlanta will be concentrating on the 'state streets' of the neighborhood, and they want all of our help and input. Please join Trees Atlanta at 9 a.m. to noon on the Arizona Avenue side of the Lake Claire Land Trust, March 26, where you will learn how and why Trees Atlanta plants trees in Atlanta. Then you, your friends, and family will be sent off to beautify our neighborhood! Please see www.treesatlanta.org for more information on the organization and its programs.

Lake Claire Rocks!

by Leslie Prince (Clifton Sanctuary Ministries)

Thank you, thank you, thank you..... We're still working on the grand total, but our Lake Claire neighbors responded to our Christmas greeting with an energy the likes of which we have never experienced. The transformation that takes place at 369 Connecticut Avenue could never take place without your love and financial support and, for that, we are truly grateful.

Many of you dropped off clothes, toiletries, and other surprises

for our Christmas morning gift bags, and the guys were over-the-moon excited and enjoyed opening their gifts. For those of you that participated in and enjoyed our Christmas caroling, we hope you had fun and will make that a part of your family's holiday tradition.

If you would still like to participate in our year-end appeal—it's never too late—and if the insert in your *Clarion* got thrown out
Cont. on p. 3

A Community Treasure for All to Enjoy

by Dan Watson (The Frazer Center)

Did you know that 2016 marks the 95th Anniversary of the Cator Woolford Gardens? The Gardens were original designed as a welcoming retreat for visitors to the Cator Woolford Estate (now the Atlanta Hospital Hospitality House). Luckily, this remains true today!

The Gardens and surrounding 39 acres of mature hardwood for-

est are located on one of the few remaining intact historic estates in metro-Atlanta, and remain open for the community to enjoy. Whether it is to celebrate a marriage or anniversary, or simply a place to get a little nature in the middle of a busy city, the Gardens will always be here.

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Volunteers needed to deliver the Clarion –

- (1) Clifton Road (the Lake Claire side);
- (2) McLendon between Clifton and Ridgewood/Connecticut;
- (3) Nelms Avenue.

Contact mcgill1776@gmail.com if available for one of these routes—this is a great service to the neighborhood, the only commitment is walking the route and putting papers on dry places on porches the first week of each month.

Try it—get your steps in!

Highlights of this issue

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THE **CLARION** IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.

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The Clarion is published monthly. The deadline for advertising and editorial consideration is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Letters to the editor should be limited to 300 words or fewer. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not those of Lake Claire Neighbors, Officers, or the Clarion Staff.

Cover banner photo by Sarah Coburn

The Clarion Newspaper (including its predecessor Neighbors Monthly Newsletter and its predecessor Lake Claire Neighbors Flyer) has been written, edited, and distributed by volunteers since 1989.

FEBRUARY—Lots of stuff this leap year

1 to March 13 • Horizon Theater presents: “The Toxic Avenger” (a monster of a rock musical). Check www.horizontheatre.com.

1 to May 31 • Bremen Museum: “Where the Wild Things Are—Maurice Sendak in His Own Words and Pictures” www.thebremen.org

1 to May • Michael C. Carlos Museum: “Spider Woman to Horned Serpent: Creation and Creativity in Native North American Art”

5 One Love! Bob Marley Birthday Celebration –

Join the Lake Claire Community Land Trust, 7:00-11:00 p.m. at the First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive. Featuring the Ex-P.A.N.D. Band (unplugged!) and local reggae favorites the Natty Love Joys. \$10 donation. Drinks and snacks provided.

6 & 20 Land Trust Drum Circle, sunset to 11:00 p.m. Pls walk, bike, or carpool.

7 ANNUAL **WOMEN'S TEA** FOR LAKE CLAIRE WOMEN. Please join Betsy Hoddinott and her friends on Sunday, February 7, 2-5 p.m., for an afternoon of tea, treats, and talk. Please bring your favorite pastry or tea sandwich, and your smile. Hats and gloves encouraged. 1759 Indiana Avenue. And there may be some football game afterwards—if interested in that sort of thing.

7 AND EVERY SUNDAY • 1-4 p.m., Family Fun @Woodruff Arts Center. www.woodruffcenter.org / *Family-Fun*

9 Mary Lin monthly dine-out at our favorite kids-always-eat-free Flying Biscuit—details on Page 3. AND Upcoming 2016 School Tour dates, Feb. 9 at **Mary Lin**. Tours begin at 9:30 a.m. And at the **Friends School**: 2015-2016 Tour Dates: Pre-K–4th Grade (10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.) Feb. 3, 9, 17, 23. See Page 3.

9 The Sierra Club 2nd Tuesdays: sierraclub.org/georgia/atlanta

18 and every 3rd Thursday, Lake Claire Neighbors Meeting, The Rose Room at The Frazer Center, 7 p.m. socialize, 7:15 meeting. Pizza provided free from Savage (THANKS, SAVAGE)

20 Drum Circle—see above Feb. 6.

28 S'More Family Variety Show, kicking off Miss Ladybug's 2016 series of *All Together Now* Family Fun events. Featuring Farmer Greenthumbs and Friends, with an open mic for local young folks, a bonfire and s'mores for all. *At the Land Trust!*

Help us fill it out! Deadline, Feb. 15 to editor@lakeclaire.org.

Dear Editor,

This letter is not exactly a response to but rather some additional observations and thoughts on the excellent “Drive Like Your Kids Live Here” article by Sue Strauss in the last Clarion (January issue, Page 1).

I'm 100% in agreement with Sue and would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her research and taking the lead on this important issue, which affects all of us. Not only did Sue conduct the research, but she also discussed issues with city authorities—not an easy task.

Why is it that so many drivers don't obey the stop-for-pedestrians law at such intersections? There could be several reasons:

1. Pedestrians waiting to cross are not visible enough to the Clifton drivers. As a driver, that has happened to me several times. I only noticed a waiting pedestrian after it was too late for me to stop for him. The waiting areas (the sidewalks) are often hidden by parked cars or by the curve of the road.

2. Unlike standard ‘Stop’ signs, which are clear and definite, the cross-walks are wishy-washy. They leave the decision to the driver and present “if” and “maybe” situations. The message is “if there is a pedestrian waiting to cross, stop (if no pedestrian, continue)”; “If the pedestrian is half way, stop,” etc. The common thing among these “if” situations are that they're all judgement calls left for the driver. And they present problems: There are drivers who notice the pedestrians waiting to cross, but are either too slow to react, unfamiliar with the exact laws, or just indecisive.

And maybe the #1 reason why drivers don't stop is the poor marking of the pedestrian crossings. Sue is already in discussion with the authorities regarding this. The bottom line: Regardless of the reasons, such intersections as we have at the cross streets from Lake Claire to Clifton (Muriel, Harriett, and Marlbrook) all present unsafe conditions to pedestrians and unclear ones to drivers.

And pedestrian safety is not the only problem. When I pull out in my car from Marlbrook onto Clifton every morning, I have a hard time seeing oncoming traffic from the south (McLendon) due to cars parked too close to the intersection. I have yet to talk to any DOT engineer, but it looks like the city quickly repaved Clifton Road, but never invested in studying traffic and pedestrian patterns. Since we love our neighborhood, it's in our best interest to get the issues addressed and live in a safe neighborhood. Sue's lead should not be a one-person effort. Each and every one of us should be involved. After all, we all use the roads and cross walks, don't we? If you see something which doesn't look right or even worse—is risky—please speak out. Make it known so that other folks are aware of it as well. Call the city. Be proactive.

Thanks, Asher Vilensky



F • O • C • U • S O • N E • D • U • C • A • T • I • O • N

Friends School of Atlanta

by Megan Tarshis

If you know of anyone who would like to learn more about The Friends School of Atlanta, please let him or her know about the Friends School's upcoming tours and open houses. Tours are an opportunity for parents to spend two hours on campus, receiving in-depth information about the curriculum and culture of FSA as well as observing classes in session and touring facilities. Open houses, always held on a Saturday, are wonderful occasions for parents and children alike to meet other families, talk about the school, and tour the campus.

I encourage you to come to learn about the benefits of the values-driven education, offered in small diverse classes, at The Friends School

of Atlanta.

2015-2016 Open Houses: Saturday, February 6, 2016, 10 am -12 pm.

2015-2016 Tour Dates: Pre-K - 4th Grade (10:00 am -12:00 pm) February 3, 9, 17, 23; March 2,15

Grades 5-8 (9:00 am -11:00 am) : February 2, 10, 16, 24; March 8, 23

The admissions and financial aid applications for new students' deadline: February 22, 2016

To register for a tour, or for more information about the Friends School, please email Nancy Bent, Director of Advancement and Admissions, at nancy.bent@friendsschoolatlanta.org.

Lake Claire Rocks

Continued from page 1

with the mounds of wrapping paper, please feel free to visit our website at www.clifton-sanctuary.com and click on the "donate here" button. You can also check out our need(s) of the month that we display on our marquee sign (Connecticut @ McLendon as in the picture, right) if you'd like to include Clifton on your grocery shopping list.

Please feel free to stop in and say hello if you're ever around the corner of McLendon and Connecticut Avenues We'd love to show

you around, introduce you to our guests, and share with you the magic that is Clifton Sanctuary Ministries.

Editor's note: After 5 years, James Crutcher steps down as the Lake Claire representative on the CSM Board, and another LC neighbor, Bryan Davis, has graciously agreed to replace James. James greatly enjoyed his time working for CSM. Welcome, Bryan, to CSM, and to writing occasional updates in the Clarion, starting with his first one, below.

From the Lake Claire Rep on CSM's Board

by Bryan Davis

Five years ago, one of our neighbors, James Crutcher, began his tenure on the board at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries (CSM), located quietly in our neighborhood. Recently, James asked me to take his place—new obligations require more of his time. So, your new representative on the CSM Board is Bryan Davis, this writer. I live with my family on Tuxedo Avenue, near the basketball goal. I attended my first board meeting on January 14.

So many things in life are shouting for our attention it seems. From politics to constant advertising, and the constant monitoring of our habits via our cell phones. Images on television and movie screens that a generation or two ago would have been unthinkable. We live in a world screaming for attention. The cacophony is deafening. I don't think it will every stop.

And yet, I felt as if I were sitting around a wood stove in a cabin in the woods yesterday evening at the meeting. Snow might well have been falling quietly outside. Life slowed down. I was sitting at a table with people who have been dedicated to Clifton for 10 or more years on average, as volunteers. The table was lucky—it was standing in the middle

of a circle of quiet hope.

We considered a question at the meeting: how well do our neighbors know Clifton Sanctuary Ministries? I must confess, I do not know it well. It has been around for some time now—since the late seventies. I learned last night that it has one of the highest 'success rates' in the nation; almost 70% of its graduates continue their lives off the street. It sits quietly on the hill on McLendon at Connecticut with the steady work of recovery as its focus. People work to recover their lives.

It turns out that Lake Claire has a lot to do with this. Gordon, the financial guy, told us that Lake Claire residents made up over half of all donations to Clifton, in dollar quantity and in numbers of donations last year.

So this is a major message from last night's meeting—thank you. Thank you, Lake Claire, for your support of Clifton Sanctuary Ministries. And we want to get to know Lake Claire better. Clifton plans to have an open house this spring, and we are all invited. We did not specify a date last night, so look for a date in the next Clarion

Flying Biscuit Monthly Dine-Outs Support Mary Lin Elementary

The next monthly dine-outs at our favorite kids-always-eat-free Flying Biscuit are **February 17 and March 16.**

The third Wednesday of the month is Mary Lin night at the Flying Biscuit locations in Candler Park and Midtown. Simply show up for dinner and mention Mary Lin, and Flying Biscuit management will generously donate 5% of your ticket to the Mary Lin Education Foundation.

Please thank them for your support of Mary Lin while you're there!



Tie-dye to Khaki

Continued from page 1

ly loved yet departed member of the community. He sold us the house and his beautiful day-lily filled yard with two conditions. One was that we, as the new homeowners, would carry on the tradition of sociability that he had established, throwing a big party ever so often and inviting everybody to come. I can safely say that we have lived up to our end of the bargain on that score over these many seasons of street dances, block parties, chili/cornbread cook-offs, fire circles, weddings, funky home tours, performances, and a number of impromptu rock concerts.

The other condition Jerry set was that if we found the hidden treasure we would share it with him. Well, after decades of digging, I think I have found it, and even though Jerry is no longer with us to collect his portion, I believe the real treasure of this neighborhood is right here in this room tonight: it is the sweet friends, dear neighbors, and lovely community of Lake Claire. Blessings to you all. We love you.

Keeping An Eye on the Crime and the Time:

Lake Claire Security Report, November 29 - December 26 (4 weeks)

Another “shorty.” Yay!

Theft from Vehicle

2000 block Dekalb Ave., Dec 10, from driveway (Apple iPad, license, car title)

1700 block Marlbrook Dr., Dec 17, from street (damaged rear window, taken back pack)

400 block of Hardendorf, Dec 19, from street, taken – Vans school back pack; window damaged

Other Larceny

200 block Oxford Place, Dec 23, taken smoker (\$300 value), damaged window

400 block of Sutherland Place, from driveway at residence, outdoor grill taken.

Edgewood Retail District’s 24-hour security number: 678-618-2308.

Join www.nextdoor.com/ **join** to receive up to date security information from your neighbors.

Help make our neighborhood safer by joining the Candler Park Lake Claire Patrol at www.cplcpatrol

A Community Treasure

Continued from page 1

The Frazer Center (1815 S. Ponce de Leon Avenue NE) is proud to maintain such a community asset. The Gardens and forest are integral parts of our inclusive mission and are utilized to strengthen our programs. Our Child Development Program uses them to teach science and environmental education, and they provide job training in landscaping and horticulture for our Adult Program.

The Cator Woolford Gardens and surrounding forest remain free to the public, except when booked for a private event. It is through the kindness and generosity of many residents of Lake Claire and surrounding neighborhoods that they are maintained and preserved. Whether you frequent the Gardens to smell the blooming flowers each spring, use the many forest trails to walk your dog, or

simply support inclusion in the Lake Claire neighborhood; there are so many ways you can get involved and make a difference!



Frazer Center's Cator Woolford Gardens (by Jeff Roffman Photography)

Consider attending the Frazer Center’s annual fundraiser, *Goodness in the Gardens*, on March 25 from 6pm to 10pm. We’ll be celebrating the 95th Anniversary of the Cator Woolford Gardens with a “Roaring Twenties” theme, and guests will enjoy delicious food, a 1920s-themed band, a lively auction, and so much more! Learn all about it at www.goodnessinthegardens.org. If you can’t make the event, consider booking the Gardens for your next recreational gathering or business function. Of course, you can always donate on the Frazer Center’s website, www.frazer-center.org, or simply give in person the next time you stop by to experience the beauty of the Cator Woolford Gardens and surrounding forests.



Ready to put down or pick up roots? I can help.



I’ve helped people put down (and pick up) roots in and around 30307 for years. I’m a Mary Lin and Grady High mom and personally rooted in Lake Claire. As an Intown homeowner and Realtor® with deep roots in our community, I know how to help you find the right home and market your home to sell.

Ready to buy? I’ll leverage my intown network to find the right property – and negotiate the best deal for you.

Ready to sell? My experience with professional staging, compelling photography, and creative marketing helps sell your home faster and for the highest price.

Contact me, your intown Realtor® and neighbor, when you’re ready to put down (or pick up) roots.

- Lake Claire
- Candler Park
- Inman Park
- Decatur
- Druid Hills
- Virginia Highland
- Morningside
- Poncey Highland
- Old Fourth Ward

Get my free app to view all available homes!



February into March in the Garden

by Elizabeth Knowlton

Of course, just days after I complained of drought in my January column, it began to rain on December 17 and dropped 12.7 inches by the end of the year. Between the 23rd and 26th alone, we had 6.3" rain. And January 5-6 we also had our first true, hard freeze, down to 27 degrees by my back door. The salvias and begonia blossoms turned to mush although the latter may come through the winter with the mulch I have given them. They often do. The snowdrops are making a braver show than ever, spreading outward in the front garden from where I planted them and also where I have not. Species crocus are in bloom too, the pansies are struggling, and Carolina Jessamine is opening over a garden gate. By the time you read this, spring will be here.

I have cut up the Christmas tree and tucked it around tender perennials. Pots of foxgloves too big for indoors are now in the cold frame along with small columbine seedlings, a golden-stemmed chard I rescued from a pot, and requested plants from friends that I never got into the ground in good time. February is the month to prune roses and other shrubs that are not spring-flowering, but do not trim back your tender shrubs or herbaceous plants like lantana or artemisia because late frosts will often kill a plant that has new growth. On the other hand, this is a good month to plant shrubs and trees, especially potted ones.

Watch for a patch of dry, sunny days, and then you may be able to prepare any garden beds that were not amended and covered last fall. The newest advice is not to turn over the soil much, but I have so many roots from my hedges that I find this necessary. One is also supposed to plant peas (garden, snap, and snow) this month, and I do, even though they

usually just sit without germinating until March. You may also plant onion sets and asparagus plants.



Four Parsnips and a Carrot, by Elizabeth Knowlton

Indoors you should be very busy. Plant your seeds in clean containers filled with special seed-starting formula. This should include no fertilizers but be made up of materials that do not compact and will help prevent damping-off. I order mine from Gardener's Supply. Certainly start broccoli, cabbage, and herbs inside plus most flowers that need eight or more weeks to get to transplanting size. Once the seeds are planted, watered carefully, and covered with a transparent, tight top such as plastic wrap, place the pot in a warm place to germinate. (A few seeds need total darkness, and those pots I cover with aluminum foil.) As soon as any germination takes place, remove these covers and place the pots right up under the fluorescent lights you have ready. Seedling should be only 3-4 inches from the lights. Small pots dry out quickly, so check them daily.

When they have a few real leaves, "prick them out" by holding one leaf and lifting

the seedling from underneath with any tiny implement, such as a wooden plant label, a popsicle stick, or a small, dull knife. Lower the plant into some larger container, such as an old six-pack, filled with transplanting soil, and firm up the soil around the stem. Brassica seedlings in particular can be planted quite deep. Again, water well and monitor. They still need good light, and you may begin to fertilize them now with something like weak fish emulsion. If you have a cold frame, by all means try starting or transplanting lettuce, onions, kohlrabi, cauliflower, and the other brassicas in it.

On a related topic: Only recently did I understand something about climate change and the extinction of species (information from an article in the Jan/Feb 2016 issue of *Horticulture* by Jeff Cox). We know that the large animals of North America died off after the Ice Ages. Some of this was because of humans moving into the western continents, but another reason was that the entire landscape of plants as well as animals changed. Before the Ice Ages, the plains were covered with a greater variety of "protein-rich," non-grassy plants; and the majority of these did not survive the long, cold era. When warmth returned, grasses and woody shrubs were the prevalent plants on the plains, what white settlers found when they settled the continent. By the middle of this century, with the increased warmth, whether from human activity or some other cause, scientists expect 30-50 % of all species to be extinct. True, many of these species are not life forms that we notice in our back yards, or they may not be in our neighborhood at all. However, be-

Cont. on p. 6



Hello...Safe Journey—Skiing in and around Lake Claire

February Birthdays:

- 1 Linda Maynard, Delaware Avenue
- 2 Isla Roberts (happy 3), Claire Drive; Daniel Babinslei, Harold Avenue
- 3 Beth Damon, Delaware Avenue
- 9 Amelia Roberts (happy 7), Claire Drive; Anne Weldert, Harold Avenue
- 12 Patricia Farmer, Hardendorf Avenue
- 14 Gillian Landgraff, Harold Avenue
- 15 Selena Howard Fleming, Harold Avenue
- 16 Joanna Babinslei, Harold Avenue

17 Eva Capps, happy 7!

24 Eamon, Emmett, and Brigitte (the triplets of Hardendorf!) McNulty - turn 10 years old. And, their 10th year in the neighborhood—Congrats!

27 Lucien DeMan, happy ONE! and Esther Williams, happy 7!—both on Harold Avenue

Anniversary:

Craig and Emily Allen - Harold Avenue - Feb 8 - Happy Anniversary!

Send us stuff—birthdays and other life cycle changes—to editor@lakeclaire.org by FEBRUARY 15 for the MARCH Clarion.

Another One Bites the Dust

Lake Claire is a diverse neighborhood, including a variety of styles of homes - and sizes of homes. Many of the traditional Craftsman style bungalows have been torn down in recent years, and some have been replaced by homes that preserve the character of the neighborhood. There are some happy stories (on Leonardo, for example) of builders who care—to look for ways to build reasonably sized homes that do not block the sun for the neighbors, to look for ways



One of two recent tear-downs on Arizona Avenue

not to infringe upon privacy by windows placed with consideration of existing homes, to keep yards level with existing homes vs. building up dirt for a “mansion on the hill effect” that cause drainage problems for other homes, and to begin the ground floors at equal levels to neighbors’ ground floors...even if this means an extra expense of excavating if they want livable basements. Let’s hope the builder of this new home is just such a good citizen neighbor.

In the Garden

Continued from page 5

cause the lives of everything are so interconnected (even ours), we could expect to view a very changed landscape within a rather short time, even if we are able to reverse our contributions to global warming. Fortunately, we have short lives in the large scheme of things. I shall certainly be dead by mid-century, and even most children of Lake Claire will not live to see 2100. No reason not to curtail our relentless use of fossil fuels but rather an acceptance of changes larger than the bulldozer destruction of Lake Claire bungalows.

Let Elizabeth know what you are doing in your garden at knowltonew@earthlink.net.—Ed.

Attention: Seeking a neighbor with an hour or two to volunteer to help get more advertisers for the Clarion. Great for someone who has been wishing to help the neighborhood, but might not have time for a regular commitment. Please contact editor@lakeclaire.org or advertising@lakeclaire.org.

A two-hour commitment would help us greatly—we are maxed out, and we need you!!



Our Biscuits and Bellyrubs Cartoons are by Anna Trodglen.

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Help Wanted at the Land Trust— Immediate Openings!

by Stephen Wing

Next time you stroll around the Land Trust, you may notice that the ground in front of you is litter-free, unsullied by so much as a cigarette butt. This is not necessarily because the smokers among us have suddenly quit the habit – even the habit of unconsciously tossing their butts. A vigilant volunteer might have passed that way before you and picked them all up.

On the other hand, you may in fact notice a cigarette butt or two along the path. Guess what? It's your turn!

From the beginning, the Land Trust owes its existence to the vigilance and diligence of volunteers – from clearing kudzu to sitting through meetings, printing newsletters to running the Memorial Day Cul-de-Sac sale. Though we now hire helpers for routine tasks like mowing and bookkeeping, and have often provided Community Service hours required by schools or courts, for the most part it's still our dedicated volunteers who get things done.

However, a growing list of potential projects has been languishing on our back burner for lack of energy and time, so maybe it's time to expand our circle of volunteers. These are things that are not essential to the Land itself, but are part of the Vision. Are you interested in volunteering to spearhead one of them?

1. Creating a photo / video gallery on our WordPress website.
2. Organizing a quarterly (or monthly) open mike on our stage.
3. Scanning old photos that document our history.
4. Maintaining and repairing rainwater collection systems.
5. Scanning children's artwork for a kids' art gallery.
6. Organizing a quarterly (or monthly) movie night.
7. Assisting with plumbing and electrical systems (license required).
8. Laminating copies of old Land Trust festival posters for display.
9. Recruiting neighborhood businesses to join our network of Community Business Partners.
10. Organizing and producing a Theater Night (Comedy Night, Variety Night, Talent Show) on our stage.
11. Researching and writing grants.
12. Researching the best option for installing a solar array on our steep south-facing embankment.

Of course, Land Trust supporters are also

invited to take part in the ongoing work of maintaining the land and community. These tasks include:

13. Spreading wood chips on the trails (no skills, experience, licenses or degrees required!)
14. "Adopt-a-Weed" – your very own weed to watch for and eliminate whenever you visit.
15. Lending your muscles to the Memorial Day Cul-de-Sac Sale
16. Showing up for Committee meetings to share your energy and expertise. The Grounds, Events, Planning, and Communication committees all meet irregularly as needed. Get in touch if you'd like to be included.
17. Attending monthly Board meetings. These monthly gatherings take place on a Sunday morning from 10:30 to 12:30. Attendance fluctuates between 10 and 20 people. This is an ongoing community conversation of heads and hearts where the most essential work gets done. After you've been coming for a while, you'll barely notice when we vote you onto the Board – which merely entitles you to a vote when we approve the minutes of the previous meeting, and on those rare occasions



when we don't reach consensus on some difficult issue.

To discuss any of these possibilities, request more information, offer a proposal of your own, or simply join our email list for updates, give us a holler at info@LCCLT.org. Thanks for your support!

All Together Now Family Series Back for Another Fun Year!

We are back in 2016 for more programs that welcome all ages to celebrate our Lake Claire Community Landtrust. Join the Ladybug Events team on select Sundays from 4 to 6 p.m. for variety shows, classes on herbalism and making food, and seasonal celebrations! Our events ask for a \$5 donation. Below is our schedule for the year. Please mark your calendars and bring your friends:



All Together Now event—Weaving at the Land Trust

All Together Now is brought to you by Ladybug Events. Please consider us when you plan your next birthday party or family fun event. Check us out at Ladybugeventsllc.com

All Together Now Family Series schedule for 2016

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Sun. Feb. 28 | Have S'More! Family Variety Show
Featuring Farmer Greenthumbs and Friends with an Open Mic for Local Youth and Community Artists. |
| Sun. April 17 | Earth Poetry, Sounds of our Mother.
Featuring Stephen Wing, the Oakhurst Poetry Collective, and more |
| Sun. June 12 | Herban Adventures!, Awaken then Senses. |
| Sun. Aug. 21 | Sunflower Snack Attack, Make it, Taste it, Take it Home. |
| Sun. Oct. 16 | Hey Pumpkin, Let's Have S'More, Family Variety Show"
Featuring a Pumpkin Carving Contest & Leaf Mountain. |



LAKE CLAIRE KIDS' CORNER



We hope this series is fun and a way for young Clarion readers/writers/artists to participate. This month's featured writer is **Emma Sullivan**, who is eight years

old and a second grader at Mary Lin Elementary. She lives with her mom (Shannon) and dad (Patrick). Emma loves art and drawing, reading, playing with

Legos, and basketball. Her hobbies are collecting Shopkins, Legos, and *Our Generation* dolls

Hey there, let's hear from more Lake Claire kids—we

want your creativity on this page. Submit articles, poetry, drawings, your original puzzles, etc., to editor@lakeclaire.org. We'd love to hear from you.

CONGRATS!

Emma Sullivan found the "I have a dream" graphic last month, so she won the contest and the prize of having her picture published in this month's Clarion. Emma also told us, "Martin Luther King fought for civil rights, and he got the noble prize (*sic*)." Her 'noble' effort wins her the bonus prize of being this month's featured artist. She drew her vision of Martin Luther King (left). Congrats, Emma!



Emma Sullivan

Some Great Targets for our Lake Claire Dues

Lake Claire Neighbors acknowledged the hard work of our Atlanta Police and Fire Departments personnel with small holiday gifts, Candler Park Market gift cards to APD and gift cards for Savage Pizza to the AFD. By choosing these gifts we also supported the CP Market and Savage Pizza, both of whom have been supportive of our neighborhood in a myriad of ways, including CPM's annual bicycle raffle, and Savage's providing free pizza for our monthly neighborhood meetings. Lake Claire residents' payments of dues help us to support such causes, and it helps us help you. Suggested annual membership dues are \$20/household; any amount is appreciated! **And you may pay your dues at any time of the year, but the Clarion recommends paying at the first of the year...that is, now! —by PayPal at lakeclaire.org or the old-fashioned check in the mail, to LCN, Attn: Jim Rockaway, Treasurer, PO Box 5942, Atlanta GA 31107.**

This year is a leap year. Do you know what a leap year is? Every four years an extra day is added to the calendar, making the length of that year 366 days, instead of the normal 365. Why on earth does that need to happen? The calendar is supposed to match the solar year, the length of time it takes for Earth to orbit the Sun once. But things aren't quite that simple. It actually takes Earth 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds to complete its orbit (about 365 1/4 days). Those extra hours gradually add up so that after four years the calendar is out of step by about one day. Adding a day every four years allows the calendar to match up to the solar year again.

NEW CONTEST:

HELLO, KIDS: In our Clarion tradition, find the hidden leap year graphic. The winner will have your name and picture in the next Clarion. To win, send an e-mail with the page it is on, to editor@lakeclaire.org. Extra credit for telling us which day is "leap year day." What would happen if your birthday was on that day? The extra credit prize is that you can write or draw for a future issue of the Clarion. Any Lake Claire child is eligible, except that you can't win two months in a row. **Hurry and look;** competition is always stiff for this coveted prize.