

# English Hills News

April 2011

## Annual Meeting: Sat., Apr. 30

The Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, Apr. 30, in Bill & Karen Geiger's lower driveway at 213 London Road. The meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. Light snacks and drinks will be available.

Since we are electing new officers, proxies will be made available to you if you cannot attend the meeting. Please bring a folding chair. We will have the meeting rain or shine, so please plan to attend.

Officers candidates include:

**President:** Art Mack  
**Vice President:** Cathy Diepholz  
**Secretary:** Abigail Karroubi  
**Treasurer:** MC Gaylord  
**Assistant Treasurer:** Debbie Mentch  
**Social Director:** Jody Beal  
**Associate Board Members:** Jennie-Lynne McFadden  
Michael List  
**Past President:** Bill Geiger



## Annual Yard Sale: Sat., May 7

The English Hills Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 7, 8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Start planning now. Check your basement, your attic,

or maybe Aunt Martha's old trunk, but dig for those

treasures for others that may be gathering dust for you. This is a fun event every year, so we hope that you will plan to be a part of it. This sale will be advertised in the May 6 *Times-News*, and we usually get a very good turnout, beginning even before 8:00 a.m., so be prepared to handle early shoppers.



## Summer Picnic: Sat., July 16

Previously known as the Annual Watermelon Bash, our Summer Picnic will be held on Saturday, July 16, beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Margate Lane. This year we will try something new. Not only will we have the tastiest watermelon this side of Brevard, but also our master chief, Mike List, will be grilling his ever-popular hotdogs and hamburgers, just in case you don't want to eat dinner.

In the hot days of July, our Summer Picnic will be a great way to beat the heat with some chilled watermelon, enjoy a delicious burger or hotdog, and socialize with your neighbors. So mark your calendars for July 16!



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Visit the EHHA web site at [www.shadyvale.com/English Hills](http://www.shadyvale.com/EnglishHills)

## Tips for protecting yourselves and your property from crime

**Bill Geiger**



We live in a terrific community, but we are not immune to crime; therefore, we should be proactive about safeguarding ourselves and our assets. Det. Jeremy Brooks, Henderson Co. Sheriff's Office, recently shared some simple tips that often are taken for granted or overlooked.

### Lock your doors and windows.

Even if you will be away for just a short time, secure your home every time you leave.

Be observant for suspicious cars and strangers on foot.

Keep your property as well-lit as possible. Criminals do their best work when they can move around in the dark. To this end, motion lights are reasonably priced and worth consideration.

Think seriously about an alarm system for your home. The Board will be doing a study of alarm systems and companies in the weeks to come. We won't make any recommendations, but we will give you some ball-park cost estimates.

If you walk in on a crime or witness one in process, do not approach or impede the criminal. Move to a safe area, and call 828-697-4911. Your description of the person(s) and/or vehicle description could aid in the quick apprehension of the perpetrator.

Watch out for your neighbors, and have them watch out for you. Staying alert will help us to keep our community safe.



## Winter Party Was a Big Success

If you haven't attended an English Hills social event, you are missing out on a grand opportunity to meet your neighbors. Our annual Winter Party this past January was a great success and much fun for all in attendance. The new covered-dish format encouraged attendees to bring their favorite dishes, which was a treat for all

of us, while the EHHA added the drinks and some extra goodies. Horst and Elly Vollmers did a great job in graciously hosting this event. The Winter Party continues to grow each year, because it offers a pleasant escape from the hibernation of the cold, wintry days. Add this event to your calendar. You will be glad that you did.

## We Still Have a Speeding Problem

We continue to have a speeding problem, even after numerous articles in the newsletter addressing this issue. We have a responsibility as owners and residents to make our community as safe as possible. English Hills is a great place to walk, and many of our residents walk their pets in the community. Children play on our roads. Unless we take action to curb speeding in our community, it's only a matter of time until there is a serious accident.

**How do we take action?** We take action as individuals to observe the posted speed of 25 MPH. Better yet, decrease your actual speed to 20 MPH or less, and take a minute more to arrive at your final destination. Also, remind service people that we have a speed limit in our community, and we intend to enforce it.

**This is our English Hills. Let's do our best to keep it safe.**

## Neighborhood News

Send your news or photos to [karen@shadyvale.com](mailto:karen@shadyvale.com)

### -> Congratulations to Carol Lim for Being Published in Journal.

Recently one of Carol Lim's articles about native clematis was published in the British Clematis Society Journal. We recommend visiting Carol's website at [www.clematisviorna.info](http://www.clematisviorna.info), which shows all of the species in that group and gives links to some sources. One of her photos appears on Page 1 of this issue.

### -> Welcome to the Riddles, our new English Hills neighbors.

Please join us in welcoming Barry and Deborah Riddle to English Hills. They are residing at 204 London Road, and we hope they greatly enjoy their new home.

## Association Officers 2009-2010

President	Bill Geiger	wgeiger@his.com
Vice President	Art Mack	mackar4264@yahoo.com
Secretary	Abigail Karroubi	karroubi@bellsouth.net
Treasurer	MC Gaylord	acksanders@bellsouth.net
Social Director	Cathy Diepholz	cathy.diepholz@yahoo.com
Past President	Michael List	mlist1349@yahoo.com
Associate Director	Jennie-Lynne McFadden	jennie-lynn@att.net
Associate Director	Debbie Mentch	mentchfamily@hotmail.com

## Treasurer's Report



**MC Gaylord**

Our financial statements at year end, Apr. 30, 2010, disclosed that we had revenue from association dues of \$1,130. Total expenses for the period were \$1,170.58. Our expenses exceeded our revenues by \$40.58.

Expenses included supplies for the Fall Picnic, Winter Party, Watermelon Bash, plus other expenses that included the annual meeting, paint for the entry sign, gifts for new EHHA neighbors, memorials (three for this year), and the cost of electricity for our entrance lights. Our yearly dues normally cover expenses, with the electricity being approximately a third of the normal expenses.

Please note that for the past two years, the cost of publishing our newsletter, our new website, and our new online bulletin board has been donated, and no part of that cost has been reimbursed from association dues.

Every homeowner's dues payment is essential for us to maintain our budget. All but three homeowners paid their 2010 dues. The deadline for payment of 2011 dues is the first week of our fiscal year, which begins May 1, 2011. **Please mail your dues check to me at MC Gaylord, 150 Oakshire LN, Hendersonville, NC 28739, or bring it with you to the Annual Meeting.**

### English Hills News

213 London Road, Hendersonville, NC 28739  
828-693-5045 [karen@shadyvale.com](mailto:karen@shadyvale.com)  
[www.shadyvale.com/EnglishHills](http://www.shadyvale.com/EnglishHills)

## English Hills Gas Service Update



### Bill Geiger

Last spring we did a survey of English Hills residents support for gas service in our neighborhood. Here is an update on the response and the gas company requirements for making this a reality.

We have 57 homes in English Hills. We had 18 responses to our survey, and not all positive. This level of response will *not* bring gas service to English Hills; therefore, we took a different approach. We decided to put the ball in PSNC's court by requesting a plan that would make gas service a reality. The first question that every homeowner will ask is: What will it cost to bring gas service to my home?

There is a cost involved, but depending on the options you exercise, the cost can be spread over a three- or five-year period.

I have been working with Mark Brewer from PSNC, and he has been most helpful. PSNC wants to be in English Hills; however, this is a two-way commitment, and as homeowners, we must be willing to accept this. Here a breakout of costs: The cost of running gas lines into English Hills is approximately \$9,000, and this is based on a model for our community layout.

PSNC is projecting service for a minimum of 24 homes. All participating homes would share in the cost, so at 24 homes, it would be \$375 per home. Just to clarify, none of the 24 homes can have existing gas service. Currently, we have six homes on the perimeter of the neighborhood, which have gas service from another network, and they would not be included in the block of 24.

Obviously, if we had more than 24 homes in our model, we could reduce our individual cost. For example, participation by 34 homes would result in an individual cost of \$265.

Now, let's talk about the participating homeowner commitment. PSNC is asking that you purchase a gas water heater or a gas furnace as a part of bringing the gas service to your back door. Realistically, the cost of a gas hot water heater would be the lowest cost option, ranging between \$1,400 and \$1,600, but PSNC offers three-year financing at 9.5%. For gas furnaces, there is five-year financing available. Once you have the gas service in your home, you will have the availability of other gas products without the need for further gas lines. Other gas appliances include gas logs, clothes dryers, natural gas stand-by generators, plus other applications. These are the costs from our model, as created by PSNC Energy. They are not the actual costs, but they should come close.

Gas service would bring new energy options to English Hills, plus it would add value to all of our homes. The Board is excited about the possibilities that gas service offers. If you are currently listing your house for sale in English Hills, the availability of natural gas service may be an important factor in selling your home. This is a buyer's market, and buyers are looking for a variety of energy options. We hope you will participate and make this service a reality in our community in the near future. This is the right time to bring gas service to English Hills. Let's not miss out on this important opportunity.

## English Hills Discussion Board

### Karen Thompson Geiger

A community discussion board was recently added to the online presence of the English Hills Homeowners Association. The discussion board is for the use of members of the EHHA only, and I'm serving as the administrator.



If you wish to register so that you can post comments or questions to the discussion board, please email me at [karen@shadyvale.com](mailto:karen@shadyvale.com). Include your full name, street address, phone number, and the 2-25 character User Name *and* Password you wish to use. Your personal contact information will not be posted on the discussion board, but will only be used to verify your eligibility to register. When your registration is approved, you will receive your approved User Name and Password via email.

This is a public online discussion board for neighbors to exchange ideas, thoughts, problems and solutions that relate to our neighborhood. Please observe common rules of courtesy when posting to the English Hills Homeowners Association Community Discussion Board. We are starting with one forum topic, General Discussion. Email me with any suggestions for additional and more specific forum topics.

You can access the discussion board via our website at [www.shadyvale.com/EnglishHills](http://www.shadyvale.com/EnglishHills) or directly at <http://englishhills.boardhost.com/index.php>.

Visit the EHHA web site at [www.shadyvale.com/EnglishHills](http://www.shadyvale.com/EnglishHills)

