



Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

528 North 32nd Street

Omaha, NE 68131



Chairman - Jim Windorski 341-4695
Secretary - Corky Grimes 345-3217

Vice-chairman - Chuck Kilgore 558-5000/341-2757

Treasurer - Ron Yates 558-6027

Corresponding Secretary - Ruth Windorski 341-4695

January, 1991

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST

by Judi Caban

Congratulations to the winners of our second annual Christmas Decorating Contest! First prize goes to Mr. and Mrs. McRoberts, second prize to Mr. and Mrs. S. Stober. There was a tie again this year for third prize, with Mr. and Mrs. C. Foster and Mr. and Mrs. L. Whelan sharing that prize.

Thank you to all entrants. The neighborhood is looking more and more festive each year! Everyone start thinking now about entering next year's contest.

HOLIDAY SHARING PROJECT A SUCCESS

by Emily Wagoner

On Thursday, Dec. 20, 1990, the Holiday Sharing Committee (Chuck Kilgore, Barb Schroeder, Emily Wagoner, and various board members, including Jim and Ruth Windorski, Ron Yates, and Mike Caban) put together boxes of clothing, toys, boxed and canned food items, and gift certificates, for various families in our neighborhood. The Gifford Park Neighborhood Association donated \$300.00. J-N-J Groceries matched us on gift certificates at his store, and Robinson's Garage matched the Association on a contribution for car services for one of the families. Subby Anzaldo, our city councilman, also donated a box with a ready-to-fix turkey dinner for a family, and various individuals made donations, including some of the morning coffee drinkers at Kilgore's Restaurant. The whole evening was an enjoyable and rewarding experience for everyone concerned with hopes of promoting good will and prosperity for the neighborhood. We encourage all Gifford Park neighbors to participate in our holiday sharing project, and in getting to know other members of our neighborhood.

NOTE CHANGE OF PLACE & TIME

NEXT MEETING:

JANUARY 3, 7:00 P.M.

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL
SEMINAR ROOM
FREE PARKING

GUEST: MR. ART LIMONES
911 OPERATOR

NOTE CHANGE OF PLACE & TIME

PURCHASING OPTION OFFERED FOR RECYCLABLES

from a letter written by Steve Braithwaite, President of Refuse Resource Recovery Systems

As you know, the City of Omaha has embarked upon an innovative recycling program called the "Omaha Effort." We at Refuse Resource Recovery Systems (RRRS), as the principal recycler for the City, are excited at being a part of this program.

In an effort to expand the recycling initiative even further, on January 2, 1991, Refuse Resource Recovery Systems will begin purchasing recyclables from various social, civic, and community groups in addition to the general public. Our buy-back center will be located at the City of Omaha's Solid Waste Recycling Center at 1515 North 6th Street (6th and Seward).

Refuse Resource Recovery Systems will pay the highest dollar for your recyclables. If you have any questions or require additional pricing information, please call 342-8446.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

NEIGHBOR OF THE MONTH

Maybe we should make the Florence area the **November Neighbor of the Month**. Not only have they overlooked Mike Schartz and his crew for the Paint-a-Thon but now we have Dennis Rieger, who has been a great deal of help with our Neighborhood Walk Group. Dennis, whose father is an Omaha Police Officer, and uncle, Jerry, who was a police chief in Kansas, have a great deal of knowledge as to how a police department works. Nearly every Friday and Saturday night you will find Dennis providing mobile support for our walkers. It is not often that you find a young man who will volunteer his time, equipment, and gas to help some folks seventy blocks south of him. Dennis, you should visit our neighborhood in the daylight, you might like it here and we sure could use another good neighbor. Congratulations on being our November Neighbor of the Month.

If you would like to nominate someone for Neighbor of the Month, please contact Ron Yates at 558-6027. The person does not have to be a member of GPNA to be nominated!

NEIGHBORHOOD WALK GROUP REPORT
by Mike Caban, Chair

I want to encourage anyone in the Association who has the time and the inclination to join us. On behalf of the Neighborhood Walk Group, I want to thank Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Wilwerding for the great job they did on -the vests, and our friends at 7-11 for their hospitality. And from the chairman, a special thanks to all you folks who brave the streets, and base for us every week; you are a great asset to this community, and your efforts are appreciated. I think our presence is felt.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
by Ruth Windorski

This month we will thank openly all of our good neighbors who have delivered our newsletters during the year. The success of our newsletter can be attributed to these fine people: Mark Shively, Jay Genoa, Lance Windorski, Harry Dirgo, Bernie Sundberg, Ron Yates, Chris Foster, Kathy and Tom Rose, Farol and Ed Hendershot, Virginia McRoberts, Chris Lausterer, Lois Baumhover, Vera Horton, Barb Schroeder, John and Jackie Lynch and Judi Caban. Thanks again, and keep up the good work.

Our only new member this month is Rob Marcotte, of Marcotte and Associates.

The committee had a difficult time with the **December Neighbor of the Month** — so many people and so little month. Let's start with St. Joe's for the wonderful banquet. We also must remember Martha Kelly and Marlene Wilwerding for the work they did on the Neighborhood Walk vests. Mike Caban and his Neighborhood Walk Group earned a pat on the back this and previous months. Whitney Johnson at 7-11 — good coffee! Not to be out alone, Loren at J-N-J has broken his neck helping with the Christmas gifts. Chuck Kilgore, Barb Schroeder, and Emily Wagoner did an outstanding job putting the Holiday Sharing Program together. Ruth and what's-his-name, who had a hand in everything. Everyone who entered the Christmas decorating contest did a good job — it was hard to choose a winner. Dale at Robinson's Garage, thank you. Wayne and Peggy Hill, we enjoyed the movies. The Omaha Police Department deserves a standing ovation for catching the bad guy who robbed the lady on our west end. The Elks Club Lodge #39 came through again with a food basket donation. You can always count on Subby to support a good cause. And finally, Brian Kokensparger, who puts the newsletter together every month. If good people make a neighborhood what it is, then you live in a great neighborhood. Congratulations to all of you as our December Neighbors of the Month.

TREASURER'S REPORT
By Ron Yates

Balance 11/22/90	\$2,195.95
No Receipts	0.00
	\$2,195.95
Post Office (stamps)	50.00
Walgreen's (envelopes)	6.73
C. Kilgore (Holiday Sharing)	300.00
R. Windorski (Wreath & Banquet)	111.21
Balance 12/20/90	\$1,728.01

**GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Date _____

ANNUAL DUES -- \$3.00 PER PERSON -- MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE JUNE 1, 1991

If paying by check, make checks payable to GPNA
Mail to Ruth Windorski: 528 N. 32nd St., Omaha, NE 68131

CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY OF 1990 GPNA PRIORITIES

by Jim Windorski

At the end of 1989, the GPNA was focused on these priorities:

1. Newsletter and information to the community -- Twelve newsletters were published; six mailed to members only, and six walked around to everyone in the community. Anyone may submit articles for the newsletter on any subject. The editorial page is open to all for opinions.
2. Revitalization of 33rd and California business district -- Although there are little visible signs of positive change, much work and effort has been put forward by the Association. Board members have met weekly with representatives from St. Joseph's Hospital, Creighton University, Boystown National Research Hospital, Omaha Public Schools, and others, in an effort to solicit their cooperation as neighbors. The fruit of this should be visible in 1991.
3. Additional Neighborhood Watch participation -- At the close of 1990, there are only four certified Neighborhood Watch Groups in GPNA boundaries:
 - a. 34th Street, California to Webster
 - b. Davenport, 35th Ave. to 36th St.
 - c. 32nd Street, California to Cass and Cottage Grove
 - d. Burt Street, 33rd to 34th Streets, and 34th Street, Burt to Cuming.

Two of these groups participated in "National Night Out" in August. We should have more neighborhood participation in this program.

4. Master plan for Gifford Park improvements -- The Master Plan Committee effort is ongoing. This year should bring to the GPNA a plan from Parks and Recreation with the city's and committee's proposals for consideration of the neighborhood. The official sign for Gifford Park as promised in 1989 by PR and PP should be on 33rd Street, near Cass. If anyone sees the sign, will you please let me know.

5. Enhanced housing code enforcement -- The Housing and Community Development Department appear to be understaffed in field inspectors and at times may be the victim of neighbor's disputes; thus their effectiveness is less than desirable to the neighborhoods that need their services. We have had, in 1990, about four buildings that were condemned for demolition by the city. Of these, two were removed by the city, and two were removed by the owners. Two-for-four -- not bad for our neighborhood. Most owners do care.

6. Strengthening neighborhood pride and awareness -- This is the last priority as listed, but perhaps this is the bottom line in the usefulness of neighborhood associations. Gifford Park neighbors should feel proud of our participation in:

- . Pony League Baseball at Gifford Park
- . Gifford Park team and Jr. J team
- . Show Wagon at Gifford Park
- . City-wide Spring Cleanup
- . Fall Neighborhood Association Cleanup
- . Holiday Decorating Contest
- . Easter egg hunt for neighborhood kids
- . Neighborhood picnic
- . Pumpkin Patch for neighborhood kids
- . Garage Sale
- . Brush Up Nebraska
- . Neighborhood Walk Group Committee
- . Police Ride-Alongs in 1990
- . Survey Committee
- . Blood-Mobile at St. Joseph's Hospital
- . Neighborhood Watch Groups
- . Street Sweeping
- . Optimists Bicycle Rodeo in Gifford Park
- . Mayor's Neighborhood Partnership Award
- . GPNA Drug-Free Zone signs and stickers

We also should be proud of our corporate neighbor, St. Joseph's Hospital. Their contribution and participation in the Association is vital to our neighborhood.

Our pride extends to the Health Sciences, Facility Planning/Management, and Student Services Departments at Creighton University. Their participation is also critical to our neighborhood.

The construction of a Medical Building at 30th and Webster, and the parking facility at 32nd and Burt, are the result of cooperation between the neighborhood, a hospital, and a private educational institution. Hopefully, this project will have a ripple effect to the 33rd and California business district.

It is an honor to serve as chairman of this Association. Any suggestions, criticisms, or advice, are always welcome at any time. It would be impossible to do the things we do without the help of the great people in the Gifford Park Neighborhood.

REMEMBER, THIS IS OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

GUESTS AT 1990 GPNA OR BOARD MEETINGS

Police Division:
Chief Skinner
Deputy Chief Crowley
Captain O'Donnell
Lt. Coufal
Sgt. Points
Sgt. Zoucha
Sgt. Nelson
Sgt. Conahan
Sgt. Sundemier
Sgt. Friend
Officer McClarity
Officer Cordwin
Officer Swanson
Officer Fidone
Officer Harris

City Hall:
Mayor Morgan
Jerry Parks
Larry Foster
Delores Silkworth
Subby and Janice Anzaldo

Om. Housing Authority:
Joyce Beasley

Tax Payers Coalition:
Ed Jaksha

Cands. for County Treasurer:
Julie Haney
Sam Howell

Cands. for County Attorney:
Jim Jansen
Dan Rydberg

Cand. for OPPD Board:
Rita Carroll

MAD DADS:
Terry Edwards

St. Joseph's Hospital:
Matt Kurs
Bruce Buchanan
Jack Bowman
Nan Tiedeman
Jackie Beaton
Shelley Anderson
Linda Wastrel

Creighton University:
George Grieb
Fred Salzinger
Jim Willett
John Cernech
Dr. O'Brien
Stephanie Wernig
Jana Martin
Sandy Sawyer
Mike Black

Omaha Public Schools:
Irv Young

Boystown Nat. Res. Hosp.:
Chuck Lakin

If anyone has suggestions for guests at our meetings, please contact Jim Windorski, or any other member of the GPNA Executive Board.

HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

from a letter by Subby Anzaldo

During 1991, the City of Omaha will offer a number of home repair programs designed to assist low and moderate income homeowners. These programs range from minor home repairs for elderly citizens to home improvement financing for major repair projects.

The Home Handyman Program, which operates city-wide, assists lower income, elderly households by making minor home repairs such as replacing a broken window, repairing a leaky faucet, or adding a handrail to a stairway. A contribution from the homeowner is requested based upon ability to pay.

To qualify for the Home Handyman Program, the homeowner or spouse must be at least 60 years of age. For further information about this program, please contact Mr. Bill Boyd at 444-5271.

The Emergency Repair Program also operates throughout the City. This program assists very low income households with emergency repair problems

needing immediate action. To find out if you qualify, or to request emergency assistance, please call Mr. Leon Komar at 444-5489.

The Reinvestment Area Program provides financial assistance for home renovation projects. Under this program, Community development Block Grant Funds are used to reduce the size of a home improvement loan from a private lender. Although priority is given to the repair of housing code items, some general improvements are also allowed.

The Reinvestment Area Program is available to moderate-income households in an area generally east of 42nd Street. If you are planning a home repair project and need financial assistance, please contact Ms. Cathy Kaspar at 444-5153.

Home improvements and repairs add safety and comfort to your living environment and increase the value of your property. I encourage you to take advantage of the home repair programs that are available.

EDITORIAL CORNER

IT IS TIME TO FLY OLD GLORY AGAIN

by Mike Caban

Our nation may soon be in a state of war. It is a time when we need to gather together, to renew our unity and faith in one another. A time for all of us to lift ourselves up as one people, put aside our differences, and band together to do what we can to help our neighbors, and our nation, endure the hardships that may lie ahead. We all know of someone who has a son or daughter, husband or wife, either in Saudi Arabia or on their way. It is a time of great anxiety for those left behind, as well as those who are over there. It is a time for our prayers. A time to comfort and support our brothers and sisters, our neighbors and friends. It is a time for us to display our solidarity as a people.

Readers are welcome to submit their letters for the Editorial Corner to any Executive Board member prior to the Executive Board meeting held the third Thursday of every month. The Executive Board has final approval for all editorials appearing in this section. Full name and address must be included on all letters submitted. The views and opinions stated are not necessarily those of GPNA or the Executive Board.

I ask all of you who own a flag to fly it, day and night, as a show of support for all those American men and women in the Armed Forces who may soon be in harm's way. Let us, in the Gifford Park neighborhood, be the first to fly OLD GLORY in every home. Let us send a message to those who may doubt our resolve. Whether you agree with the government's policy or not, these are our people over there, our neighbors and friends, sons and daughters. Let's do it for them.

It is time to fly OLD GLORY again.

GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION SURVEY

The following survey is to obtain the opinions of Gifford Park-area residents about matters that affect life in the neighborhood.

It is very important for your Association to know what your concerns are so that we can take appropriate action.

Please circle the number behind each question from 1 to 10 which most closely reflects your opinion. One (1) is very poor and ten (10) is excellent. In other words, if you think something is poor to fair, circle a number from 1 to 4. If you believe it is good to excellent, circle from 6 to 10. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

It will only take a minute to circle your answers. With this information we will be able to better serve you.

When you've completed the survey, either bring it with you to the next meeting, or mail it to Leo Wilwerding, 3512 California St., Omaha, NE 68131. Thanks for your help.

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| A. Satisfaction with trash and garbage collection | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| B. Confidence in fire protection | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| C. Confidence in area schools | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| D. Satisfaction with efforts of the Association | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| E. Satisfaction with our city council representative | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| F. Satisfaction with the mayor's office | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| G. Police protection | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| H. Police response time | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| I. Police courtesy | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| J. Traffic law enforcement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| K. Noise ordinance enforcement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| L. Police control of noisy parties | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| M. Parking law enforcement (street/front yard) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| N. Obsolete and junk car enforcement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| O. Street snow removal | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| P. Sidewalk snow removal enforcement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Q. Littered property enforcement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| R. Dilapidated property code enforcement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| S. Satisfaction with the area as a whole | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| T. Handling of barking dogs — Humane Society | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

Please place any additional comments here, and on the reverse side: