



GIFFORD PARK'S PRIDE

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

APRIL, 1992

Chairman:
Ron Yates
558-6027

Vice-Chairman:
John Lynch
345-9624

Treasurer:
Mike Caban
341-4722

**Recording
Secretary:**
Judi Caban
341-4722

**Corresponding
Secretary:**
Kathy Rose
341-3955

**At Large Board
Member:**
Ed Hendershot
341-0475

**At Large Board
Member:**
Rick Liddick
345-2476

**At Large Board
Member:**
Barb Schroeder
342-0869

**At Large Board
Member:**
Leo Wilwerding
345-1433

NEXT MEETING:

**APRIL 2
7 p.m.**

**ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL
SEMINAR ROOM**

Guest: Sgt. Sundermeier, Omaha Police Department

FREE PARKING

SPRING CLEANUP DATE SET

by Chris Foster

Spring Cleanup for our neighborhood will be Saturday, April 11th in Gifford Park. We plan to have neighborhood cleanup, park cleanup, recycling, membership & donation drive, and a picnic in the park. There are not many opportunities like this one to make our neighborhood cleaner and safer for everyone.

The City of Omaha and several trash container companies (Waste Management, Davies, Abes Trash) will donate trash dumpsters and trucks to city neighborhood organizations for spring cleanup. Jerry Flood, city maintenance superintendent, provided some interesting statistics regarding last year's city-wide cleanup: For the whole city, 276 twenty cubic yard dumpsters were filled, 45 city truckloads were hauled, and 255 individual truckloads of trees and brush were transported to city-run tree chippers machines. In 1990, the city of Omaha spent \$90,000 on spring cleanup. Last year the cost was cut to \$42,000 because neighborhoods like ours monitored dumpsters, recycled, and brought trees and brush to chipper sites.

Take a look at your own yard and street and see what you can do to clean 'em up - there is plenty of help available. Need any tools? Call the Tool Lending Hotline: Ed: (341-0475), Jim (341-4695), or Chris (342-6006) today. Need help hauling? We plan to have trucks and drivers combing the neighborhood on the day of the cleanup. Everyone who has participated on past cleanup efforts has worked very hard to make this a cleaner and safer place to live. You won't find better friends anywhere. If you can help with Gifford Park Spring Cleanup Day in any way (pickup trucks and drivers, dumpster monitors, general cleanup help, a hot dog cooker), or you need help with hauling trash, please call: Chris Foster (342-6006) or Ron Yates (558-6027).

BETA Load of wood chips

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Members of the GPNA Neighborhood Watch met with Omaha Police Division officers at the District Assembly on March 22 for the purpose of addressing neighborhood concerns in the area of law enforcement. We feel that OPD is doing an excellent job and we support them 100%. However, they can not do their job without the support and assistance of the neighborhood. If you have concerns that need to be addressed by OPD, please let them know — they are here to serve you. Laws are rules that a community must have in order to protect the rights of its members. When a law is broken someone's rights have been violated. If you have information or concerns, any member of our watch group would be glad to forward them to the attention of OPD.

COURTESY COMMITTEE

By Cynde Yates

The Executive Board of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association recently appointed me to the position of Chair of the Courtesy Committee. One of the responsibilities of the Courtesy Committee is to extend the appropriate greeting on behalf of the Neighborhood Association to our neighbors in the event of illnesses, births, deaths, etc. Please let me know about events such as these that affect our neighbors. Depending upon the event, the Association will send cards or flowers and also make announcements in our monthly newsletter. You may contact me at 558-6027.

**NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
CLEANS UP!**

Ed Stevens' Human Relations class at the Nebraska College of Business cleaned Gifford Park on March 23, 1992. The students that participated are:

- Karen Colson
- Tina Beckwith
- Angela Fincham
- Jackie Burgstrum
- Brian Oliver
- Kristi Evon
- Marla L. Malapit
- Jenny Jansen
- Nancy Hendershot

The instructor, Ed Stevens, also participated in the cleaning of the park. Let's give three cheers for the students on the hill!

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Mike Caban

Balance on 1/31/92	\$1,966.51
Donation -- Ron Yates	10.10
Mini-Raffle	11.00
Personal Ad	5.00
Business Ads	<u>395.00</u>
Total Income	\$421.10
Letters to Petitioners	29.00
Pony League Team Sponsorship	125.00
Creighton (Newsletter Printing)	80.00
Other Printing	14.32
Incorporation Fees	368.27
Business Ads Layout Service	<u>30.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$646.59
Balance on 2/29/92	\$1,741.02

**GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Date _____

ANNUAL DUES -- \$5 (Single), \$8 (Family), \$25 (Business/Institutional)

**Please note: All new and newly-renewed memberships will expire June 1, 1993.

If paying by check, make checks payable to GPNA
 Mail to GPNA: 3225 1/2 California St., Omaha, NE 68131

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY AND COMMON INDICATORS OF RESIDENTIAL DRUG TRAFFICKING

from a pamphlet provided by the Omaha Police Drug/Narcotics Unit

1. A high volume of foot and/or vehicle traffic to and from a residence at late or unusual hours.
2. Periodic visitors who stay at the residence for very brief periods of time.
3. Alterations of the property by the tenants, including the following:
 - a. Covering windows and patio doors with materials other than curtains or drapes;
 - b. Barricading windows or doors;
 - c. Placing deadbolt locks on interior doors; and
 - d. Disconnecting fire alarms.
4. Consistent payment of rent and security deposits with U.S. currency, especially small denominations of cash. (Large amounts of 20 dollar bills are commonly seized from drug dealers.)
5. The presence of drug paraphernalia in or around the residence, including, but not limited to glass pipes, syringes, propane torches, paper or tinfoil bundles, folded shiny-slick paper (snow seals), large quantities of plastic baggies, scales, money wrappers, and small glass vials.
6. The presence of unusual odors coming from the interior of the residence, especially the odor of pungent chemical substances and/or burning materials.
7. The presence of firearms, other than sporting firearms, including full automatic weapons, assault weapons, sawed-off shotguns, machine pistols, handguns, and related ammunition and holsters.
8. The presence of tenant's and possessions and furnishings which are inconsistent with the known income level of the tenant. This would include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. New and/or expensive vehicles;
 - b. Expensive jewelry and clothing; and
 - c. Expensive household furnishings, stereo systems, and other large entertainment systems.
9. Tenants who are overly nervous and apprehensive about the landlord visiting the residence.

Any one of these indicators, by itself, may not be reason to suspect drug trafficking. However, when combined with other indicators, there may be reason to suspect drug trafficking. If you suspect drug trafficking in your neighborhood, please contact the Omaha Police Drug/Narcotic's Unit at 444-5681.

BEGINNING THIS SPRING - FREE TO GPNA MEMBERS ONLY

What's that, you say?

You need to get back in shape?

You've been cooped up in the house all winter, feeding you face and watching the boob tube, and your bones are stiff from lack of exercise?

Well, have I got a deal for you.

How would you like to get the old cardio-vascular system back in shape, lose a pound or two, and do a little socializing at the same time?

Sounds like fun, you say?

It's a blast, and if you join now, as a special introductory offer, you will receive a stylish, limited edition, bright yellow vest to wear, while you are out walking those pounds off, and those leg muscles back into form.

Oh, but that's not all!

While you exercise, you'll receive, (FREE OF CHARGE), a tour of one of the finest communities in Omaha. The Gifford Park Neighborhood. There are a number of challenging hills, for the beginner, and for those macho jocks too. You won't want to miss this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Is that all, you say?

Of course not, the community is brimming with unforgettable characters who will entertain and delight you with their antics, every step of the way. We have assembled a team of experienced, professional instructors, to guide you through the evening's route.

How much will it cost, you ask?

Not a dime, and you'll be joined by others like yourself (out of shape), on Friday and Saturday nights, from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Too good to be true, you say?

What can I tell you, we've gone out of our way to make these walks a meaningful experience for all who join us. We even provide state of the art communications gear, for the radio buffs. There is nothing, too good, for our members.

I've peaked your curiosity, you say?

Good! For more information CALL TOLL FREE, 558-6027, and one of our friendly, courteous and always cheerful operators will be on hand to answer any of your questions, and assist you in every way possible.

THE PRECEDING HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY THE MAKERS OF: SAFEWALK FOOTWEAR, AND THE LAW FIRM OF - DEWEY KARE & HOWE.

INSTRUCTORS, RADIOS, AND VESTS FURNISHED BY - THE GPNA WATCH GROUP, A SUBSIDIARY OF THE GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.

THE GPNA WATCH GROUP

"With your support, and with you in mind."

EASTER EGG HUNT SCHEDULED

*"I'm late, I'm late, for a very important date.
No time to say hello,...
Good-bye. I'm late. I'm late, I'm late..."*

Don't be late like the rabbit in Alice in Wonderland. Arrive on time and be ready to explore the park for hidden treasures.

The GPNA will hold it's annual Easter Egg Hunt at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 18, in Gifford Park. Children will be divided into the following age groups: Under 4, 5-7, 8-10 and 10-12. The Easter Bunny is planning on making an appearance and will be distributing candy to the children. Children should bring their Easter Baskets, and plan to explore the park to see what they are able to discover.

This annual event is possible due to the generosity of some of our wonderful neighbors. Those neighbors are Loren Johnson from J-N-J Grocery at 33rd and California Streets and the new Albertson's Store located on Saddle Creek Road just south of Cumings. These businesses have generously supported this neighborhood function and you are encouraged to support their businesses. In addition, thanks also goes to all individuals who so eagerly volunteered to color Easter Eggs for this event. If you would like to volunteer to color eggs or wish to help prepare for this event, please contact Jeanette Martin at 345-7639 or Cynde Yates at 558-6027.

NOTES FROM THE OMAHA EFFORT
*from "The Omaha Effort Progress Advisory"***PHONE BOOK RECYCLING APPROACHES**

Telephone books will soon be collected for recycling. Last year, over 600 tons were recovered and sent to a roofing products manufacturer in Kansas. This year's collection will be better with your support. New books will be distributed from mid-May through mid-June. Start making plans now with the folks in your business who handle these details.

PUT OUR LANDFILL ON A DIET

Ten pounds per week is approximately the amount of recyclables the average family generates each week. Is 10 pounds a week really that much? Yes, it is. If you crank through the mathematics you should arrive at 26,000 tons per year for Omaha residents. You can help by investing as little as 30 minutes a week. Join The Omaha Effort for a leaner and healthier landfill and a slimmer "waste line!"

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The separate collection of yard waste begins on March 30th this year, for those folks that we still haven't convinced it is better to not collect grass clippings. Please help us by "Splitting The Difference." Set your bags of grass clippings and bundled brush a few feet away from your garbage cans and bags of recyclables.

EDITORIAL CORNER

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

KLUTZ KLUTZ KLUTZ

By Leo Wilwerding

What is a "Klutz"?

A klutz is a person who shows very little class. He or she has almost no consideration for others and tends to have one or more of the following characteristics.

1. Their property is run down - needs painting, patching and cleaning. The inside usually looks as messy as the outside.
2. They have no idea what a rake is for and barely understand the use of a broom.
3. They think all flowers are wild flowers and don't know one can or certainly have never tried planting any.
4. They are happy to share their taste in music with the whole neighborhood - at full volume. They apparently don't realize that others might prefer a different type or none at all such as when they want to sleep.
5. A klutz usually has a couple junk cars setting around their property. That this might be detrimental to the appearance of the neighborhood never enters their minds.
6. They also tend to have a dog that barks loud and long. If someone sat in front of their house honking a car horn for 5 minutes, they would be outraged. Yet no thought crossed their brain that hours of barking by their dog might be stressful to their neighbors.
7. Klutzes like to park their car on the front yard, across the side walk or across other owners driveways. The rights or concerns of others never seems to occur to them.
8. A klutz tends to collect a lot of trash around their property. This sometimes makes it look as if a tornado has just passed by. They are completely unaware or at least don't care that this might hurt property values and quality of life in the neighborhood.
9. Klutzes usually have loud exhausts on their cars and trucks. They don't realize that others may enjoy peace and quiet, particularly at night or early morning.
10. Klutzes almost never trim their trees or bushes to maintain clear sidewalks or improve the appearance of their property.

You're not a Klutz - Are You? Sure hope not. And hope too that you don't live next to one.