



GIFFORD PARK'S PRIDE

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

JANUARY, 1993

President:

Ron Yates-558-6027

Vice-President:

John Lynch-345-9624

Treasurer:

Mike Caban-341-4722

Recording Secretary:

Judi Caban-341-4722

Corresponding Secretary:

Kathy Rose-341-3955

**Standing Committee
Chairs:**

Budget & Finance

Mike Caban-341-4722

CDC/Incorporation

Chuck Kilgore-341-2757

Clean-Up

Chris Foster-342-6006

Courtesy

Cynde Yates-558-6027

Gifford Park Day

John Lynch-345-9624

Historian

Eva Swanson - 345-1707

Membership

Kathy Rose - 341-3955

Pride Distribution

Ron Yates-558-6027

Pride Production

Brian Kokensparger-558-3834

Park

Roger Freeman-345-0585

Program

John Lynch-345-9624

Public Relations

Jackie Lynch-345-9624

Social Activities

Jeanette Martin - 345-7639

Cynde Yates - 558-6027

Tool Lending

Ed Hendershot - 341-0475

VIP

Mike Caban- 341-4722

Watch Group

Ron Yates - 558-6027

Weeds & Litter

Leo Wilwerding - 345-1433

NEXT MEETING:

JANUARY 7

7 p.m.

**ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL
DINING ROOMS A,B, & C**

GUEST: TBA

GROUP HOME

They're back! Same game, new player. When members of GPNA met with St. Leo's and voiced opposition to their support of moving St. Anthony House to 3126 Chicago Street, we believed that GPNA, St. Joseph's Hospital, Yates School, Yates P.T.A., and the Pike House could show them the error of their ways. Not so! We learned on December 8th that Holy Name Housing Corporation had applied for a waiver with the Building Board of Review. GPNA members attended this hearing on December 14th, and found that the Board would not give our point of view any consideration and granted the waiver. When the Board was asked what recourse we had, we were told to take them to District Court. At our December 17th Executive Board Meeting, a motion was made and passed that we file an appeal in District Court. We hope to know more before the January 7th general meeting.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- . New Raffle Begins (page 2)
- . Holiday Lighting Contest Winners Announced (page 2)
- . Neighbor of the Year Announced (page 2)
- . Tool Lending Gets a Mower (page 3)
- . New Business on 33rd and California (page 3)
- . Holiday Banquet Report (page 4)
- . Details on New Office Space (page 4)
- . A Lead on Those Extra Pipes in Your House (page 4)

NEIGHBOR OF THE YEAR

Selection of the Neighbor of the Year is always a difficult task when so many people could be honored. The continuous support from last year's winner, St. Joseph's Hospital, has been wonderful.

Chuck Kilgore, Chairman of our Community Development Committee and owner of Kilgore's Restaurant (where we hold our Board Meetings), has bent over backwards to help. Tom Bogard has shown confidence in the area with investments. The list goes on and on . . . Subby Anzaldo, Wayne Hill, Creighton University . . .

For the 1992 Neighbor of the Year, the Selection Committee has chosen someone who has continuously supported the neighborhood when asked. He has provided support at Clean-up, Easter Egg Hunt, Garage Sale, and Gifford Park Day. He is always there for us. Congratulations Loren Johnson! Thank you very much.

HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

Not! Our participants did not even know they were entered since any display in the neighborhood was eligible. The lighting displays were fantastic. A long-time resident suggested that there have never been as many lights as there were this year.

Special recognition goes to the Wilwerding families as they all had tasteful lighting displays. Burt Street deserves recognition for having the most homes with lighting displays. The Caban family display deserves an honorable mention.

The contest results are:

1st Place: The Polens (31st and Cass)

2nd Place: The McRoberts (36th and Cass)

3rd Place: The Smarts (35th and Burt)

Congratulations to the winners! However, those of us who created and enjoyed the displays are winners as well. Great job — Let's do it again next year.

NEW RAFFLE TO BEGIN

Beginning with our January 7th meeting, we will be starting a new kind of raffle. It is called "Split the Pot." The cost will be \$1.00 per ticket, and at the end of the evening, whatever proceeds have been collected will be equally divided between the winner and the Neighborhood Association. For example, if we collect \$20, the lucky winner will walk away with \$10. We are excited about the prospects of this new raffle. Be sure and attend the January 7th meeting — you never know when you could win the big bucks!

SUGGESTED NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

- ✓ Shovel my sidewalk within
24 hours after a snow
- ✓ Pick up trash that blows into
my yard
- ✓ Be extra careful around
school crosswalks during
cold or icy weather
- ✓ Join the GPNA

PERSONAL INJURY LAW

Charles R. Kilgore Jr.

Attorney at Law

4913 Underwood Ave.

558-5000

TOOL LENDING GETS A MOWER

Thanks to our good neighbor, Bob Hutton, the Gifford Park Neighborhood Tool Lending Program has another lawn mower. Bob, a wiz at fixing anything mechanical, revived a dead mower back to life. Neighborhood tool lending is for **anyone**—you do not have to be a GPNA member. There is a minimal charge of \$3 per tool — mainly to cover maintenance costs. We probably have what you're looking for, try us!

TOOL LENDING HOTLINE

ED — 341-0475
 JIM — 341-4695
 CHRIS — 342-6006

NEW BUSINESS ON 33RD AND CALIFORNIA

It's great to see that our little corner of the world is beginning to attract new business ventures. If you haven't noticed it, make sure you stop by and try the cuisine at the new CALIFORNIA PIZZA AND SUBS, located on the southeast corner of 33rd and California Street. The frosted beer mugs, the food, and the service will hit the spot, so stop in, say "hi," have a bite to eat. Let's support this new business with our patronage.

Remember, more business means more jobs, and more needs being met locally. Now we have another local establishment where we can go for lunch and supper. Don't drive away, stay right here, and save gas, time, and money!

The GPNA and its membership welcomes this new enterprise to our community, and we wish them all the success in the world.



J-N-J GROCERY STORE



Fresh Meats - Fresh Produce
 Friendly Service
 3301 California Street - 422-1058

WE DELIVER!

8 AM-10:00 PM - Monday Through Saturday
8 AM-9 PM - Sunday

HOLIDAY BANQUET

The annual GPNA Holiday Banquet, hosted by St. Joseph's Hospital, was held on Thursday, December 3, 1992. City Councilman Subby Anzaldo gave the keynote address. He shared with us his thoughts on how fortunate we are to live in Omaha, Nebraska. He told of situations in other cities and compared those problems to problems in Omaha.

A delicious traditional turkey dinner was served with all the trimmings. Jack Bowman, a St. Joseph's Hospital Vice-president, who began his career in the kitchen, assisted with serving the meal. Matt Kurs, the St. Joseph C.E.O., gave a welcoming speech. Several door prizes were donated by Loren Johnson, Subby Anzaldo, and the Lynch's. The door prize winners were truly delighted! They were: Genine Hanna, Jerry Rieger, Candy Bacome, Martha Kelly, Mark Sundermeier, Harry Dirgo, and Cynde Yates.

The decorations this year were made by the Social Activities Committee. The candy was donated by Albertson's Supermarket. The decorations were created at minimal cost and saved for future use. Not only was the committee proud of its works of art — they were fun to make as well.

EXTRA PIPES IN YOUR WALLS?

The other day I was remodeling my house and I ran across something that puzzled me. After tearing out most of my plaster and lathe walls, I found extra pipes running inside a few of the walls leading to the light fixtures. My first thought was that they were old abandoned water supply pipes. A friend saw them and immediately told me they were pipes for gas light fixtures. I then called Leo Wilwerding (who works for M.U.D.) to shed more light on this subject.

Many of the houses in our neighborhood were built in the early 1900's with both electricity and a few gas light fixtures. Back then, electricity was more convenient and safer but because it was new; electricity was less dependable than gas. The first gas company in Omaha was started in 1869 at 11th and Jones streets. The way gas was produced originally was to heat fuel, such as coal, in a large furnace until it got hot enough to release gas. The gas was captured and piped out to homes, businesses, and street lights. Because of this method, the gas contained a lot of carbon monoxide, which made it dangerous if there was a leak. In 1947, Omaha spent the summer connecting to natural gas, which of course is what we use today.

Some of you may have already known about the "History of Gas in Omaha," but for those of us who didn't know what those extra pipes were doing in our walls, now you know the rest of the story.

MORE DETAILS ON OUR NEW OFFICE SPACE

In the November PRIDE we published an article about our newly appointed Office Committee Chairperson, but failed to give you any details about our new office space. Earlier in the Fall it was decided that an office space was needed to centralize the operations of the Neighborhood Association. Thanks to building owner Tom Bogard and Loren Johnson, who rents the building, a space was made known and available to us next to J-N-J Grocery at a reasonable cost. Thanks also to Jack Bowman and St. Joseph Hospital for their support and helping to put in a wall separating our office from the storeroom of J-N-J — and also 2 new doors, inside and out. Thanks also to the Viking Ship for their aid in obtaining new "store-front" windows, and U.S. West Communications for donating some office equipment. Due to these contributions and the low operating cost, the GPNA membership voted to approve the acquisition of this office space. The office will be used for general business, executive board meetings, as well as serve as a headquarters for our CDC. The January 21st Board Meeting will be held at the new office.