



GIFFORD PARK 'S PRIDE

A Publication of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association

July, 1991

New Officers Elected at Annual Meeting

by Judi Caban

At the G.P.N.A. meeting on June 6, 1991, an election of officers for the coming year was held as specified in our bylaws. The following persons were elected by the members present:

Chairman:	Ron Yates
Vice-chairman:	John Lynch
Recording Secretary:	Judi Caban
Corresponding Secretary:	Ruth Windorski
Treasurer:	Jerry Rieger

Four at-large members of the G.P.N.A. Executive Board were also elected. They are:

Richard Liddick
Ed Hendershot
Barb Schroeder
Leo Wilwerding

Other highlights of the June 6th meeting included:

A donation from the G.P.N.A. was presented to representatives of the MAD DADS Security Committee in recognition and gratitude for their assistance to the G.P.N.A. Watch Group.

Members of the G.P.N.A. Watch Group were honored for their service to the Group during the past year.

The officers and committee chairmen presented their annual reports to the Association.

The out-going officers were recognized and honored for their outstanding service to both the G.P.N.A. and the Gifford Park community.

Inside this issue . . .

- Neighborhood Walkers Recognized (page 2)
- Annual Report of the Chairman (page 3)
- News Items (page 3)
- Editorials (page 4)

NEXT MEETING:

JULY 11*
7 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL
SEMINAR ROOM
FREE PARKING

Guest: Charles Ritchie
Park Ranger Volunteers

Please note date**Please note date

National Night Out 1991
from the Omaha Watch Newsletter

National Night Out 1991 takes place Tuesday, August 6th. The annual National Night Out prompts us to take a hard look at our commitment to our neighborhoods. We know that, each year, some neighborhoods experience the pain and fear of burglary and other property crimes. There still remains only one best deterrent to neighborhood crime, and that's neighbors working together and watching out for each other in cooperation with local law enforcement.

KNOW what's happening in your neighborhood, REPORT crime and suspicious activity to the police, and GET INVOLVED with your neighbors in making the important decisions that affect your neighborhood.

This National Night Out is an excellent opportunity for Neighborhood Watch chairpersons to revitalize their groups. Find out who is new in the neighborhood and bring everyone together to unite the neighborhood. Make a difference on National Night Out and on every other day of the year.

G.P.N.A. Watch Group

by Mike Caban, Group Chairman

At the June meeting of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association, some of the walk group members were acknowledged for their contributions to this committee. The following people received certificates of recognition for over ten hours of volunteer time in the past year: Wayne Hill, 13 hours; Isaac W. Daily II, 16 hours; Dorothy Munhall, 21 hours; Sallie Foster, 25 hours; Dennis Rieger, 46 hours; Kathy Rose, 47 hours. For their contributions of 48 hours and above, the following people received a year pin in addition to the certificate: Mark Holzaphel, 48 hours; Chris Foster, 49 hours; Roberta Jensen, 60 hours; Jerry Rieger, 67 hours.

For service far beyond the call of duty, the following members contributing over one hundred hours received a G.P.N.A. Watch Cap, in addition to a year pin and certificate: Judi Caban, 108 hours; Jim Windorski, 115 hours; Ruth Windorski, 123 hours; Harry Dirgo, 130 hours; Mike Caban, 131 hours; Ron Yates, 161 hours.

I again want to thank all the people who have made this endeavor possible, and encourage anyone who is interested in DOING something pro-active, to join us in our attempt to maintain a healthy, safe, and wholesome environment for the Gifford Park community. And to those who may think our neighborhood is a good place for gang hideouts, drug deals, loud unruly partying, or any illegal activity, THINK AGAIN.

Newsletter Report

by Brian Kokensparger

With the adoption of 3225 1/2 California Street as the new mailing address for the G.P.N.A., Chuck Kilgore has graciously agreed to take newsletter information there as well. You can drop off any articles or news items at Kilgore's during regular business hours. Deadline for each month's newsletter is the fourth Monday of the prior month. (For example, information for the August newsletter needs to be delivered to Kilgore's on or before July 22.)

Editorial items should be delivered to Kilgore's, or given to any board member, on or before the Executive Board meeting day (the third Thursday of each month).

All approved articles and editorials will be included as space allows. If they are not included in the month for which they were submitted, they will be printed the following month. If you want me to make little changes (changing a word or two here or there, for example) to help the article read better, just write that on the top or bottom of the article. If not, we will print the exact words we receive.

Always remember: this is your newsletter. We print the newsletter because your opinions, articles, and news items are a lot more valuable on the page than under your hat.

Treasurer's Report

No report this month -- the audit has not yet been completed.

Membership Committee Report

by Ruth Windorski

The membership committee wishes to welcome all new or renewed members of G.P.N.A. A very special thank you and acknowledgement goes to Mr. Paul Mileris for his generous check in the amount of \$100.00. We truly appreciate such financial support.

Our membership has dropped to approximately one half of what it was last year at this date. This troubles me. Have you forgotten to renew or is there some other reason for not renewing your membership? This is an association of its members, all of them, and less than 100 members does not begin to speak for our whole neighborhood. Please, if there is a particular reason for your non-renewal, let us know. Your opinions and thoughts are important to us.

GIFFORD PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRED JUNE 1, 1991

If paying by check, make checks payable to GPNA

Mail to GPNA: 3225 1/2 California St., Omaha, NE 68131

Annual Report of the Chairman, 1990-91

by Jim Windorski

The G.P.N.A. is a very special neighborhood association in the city of Omaha. We are an urban potpourri of people who, unlike our suburban cousins, are here for a potpourri of reasons. We have large institutions surrounding us — their need for expansion puts pressure on the residential characteristics of our neighborhood. With each passing year, the texture of the area is changing. There are yet remaining many families with multiple generations living here. There are people who have left and have returned. Our public school is crowded with a very flexible daily census. Our neighbors have the ability to move their residence quickly, within or outside the area. We also have a college population, who occasionally forget that this is our home also. We are not all home owners. We are not all poor. We are a neighborhood wealthy in tradition as many prominent citizens of our city have had roots in the Gifford Park area.

The neighborhood is fragile at this point in time. The area embraces a large multi-culturist makeup that it is today as potpourri in that respect. We should be proud as neighbors that we have this opportunity to be a melting pot of people with wide social, economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds.

In the past three years, I have had the great opportunity to try to make a difference, positively. I find it very hard to be positive without being honest about what the G.P.N.A. has accomplished in its brief history. The honors and accolades from our sister neighborhoods are very gratifying to the

chairman. But the real satisfaction comes when you know your efforts have helped your neighbor with no expectation of reward.

The G.P.N.A. is a people organization. Its most important function is information. The newsletter is critical to its existence, viability, and credibility.

The G.P.N.A. also needs a social base of activity that brings our neighborhood together to work and play. The Association should be a catalyst to our youth and our elderly neighbors. In the past we have not communicated with neighborhood churches as we should have. The area has many low-profile businesses. In this area we need more contact with both small and large enterprises in and around our boundaries.

There are many problems and few persons dedicated to working for no pay. I know that the board and myself have given freely of our time and resources to help the G.P.N.A. to be a leader in successful neighborhood associations in the city. It has also helped new neighborhood associations form. But success could not be ours if not for the faithful membership which made this commitment most worthwhile to me. To all, I thank you for your support and know that your support will continue for our newly elected officers and our fine at large board members. Yours truly will not disappear; I owe the G.P.N.A. my continued service as a member of the Board as the Past Chairman.

News Items

At the June regular meeting of the G.P.N.A., a motion was passed by majority vote to support Buck's, Inc. in their request for a license to sell beer at their 30th and Dodge Streets facility. Ruth Windorski, corresponding secretary, sent a letter of support to the City Council shortly thereafter. The Council passed the resolution 6-1.

We received a check for \$100.00, and special recognition for accomplishments in the area of Communications, during a reception announcing the winners of Cox Cable's Salute to Omaha's Neighborhoods. Dundee Memorial won the overall award, and will be featured in a documentary by Cox Cable later this year. The G.P.N.A. was well-represented at the reception, with some dozen members in attendance.
