

INGERSOLL PARK



N e i g h b o r h o o d A s s o c i a t i o n



A Quarterly Newsletter for IPNA Neighbors

MARCH 2007

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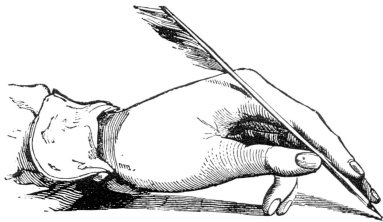
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A Letter From Our President, Graham Gillette



Hope this newsletter finds you well. March is blowing in with a vengeance, but surely Spring will follow soon.

For a long time, most of those active in the Association have lived on Harwood, Woodland or 44th Street. Fortunately, we have begun to see neighbors from 46th Street and south of Ingersoll as well. I am pleased so many of you have come to our meetings and gatherings this year. I encourage all to come. Between the great social events, we have been able to accomplish some things. I think you will find IPNA useful and fun.

IPNA is Going Green!

Thanks to Mark Kane (44th Street), the Association will be exploring a green initiative at our next Association meeting, March 8th. IPNA is beginning to plan a neighborhood-wide cooperative effort to improve the energy efficiency of homes. The plan may include energy audits, group purchasing of products to improve energy efficiency, enlisting volunteers to help with simple around-the-house projects and much more. I think this may be the most meaningful and exciting project we have undertaken. I look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions about this. Please attend our quarterly meeting on March 8th at Plymouth Congregational Church to learn more.

Trees, trees and more trees...

Thanks to my wife Katie, and City of Des Moines Arborist Skip Moore, the flowering pear tree-planting project continues. You will note most of the trees on Harwood and 44th Street have been planted. This spring, planting will resume on Harwood, 45th and 46th streets. We will begin discussing options for Ingersoll and for the streets between Grand and Ingersoll this year. It is likely a larger specimen will be recommended for Ingersoll, but no decisions have been made about this yet.

letter cont. on next page...



IPNA QUARTERLY MEETING



Thursday, March 8th

7:00 P.M. at Plymouth Congregational Church / Room 304

(change to Greenwood Room may occur but sign will be posted. Enter bldg. on the west side)

Guest Speaker : MARK KANE

Topic: The IPNA Green Initiative - "The House Warming Project"

Good Times Ahead

The rousing success of last year's Sunday before Memorial Day gathering has many talking about a reprise. Paul Goodwin (Harwood Drive) is already thinking about what movie to show after dark and many of us are longing for warm weather and BBQ. Watch for details on this and feel free to submit your ideas. Most of all, plan to come!

I have enjoyed being president of IPNA. My term ends at the June meeting where we elect new officers. Please consider joining the board and helping to make our neighborhood an even better place to live.

Graham Gillette

635 Harwood Drive

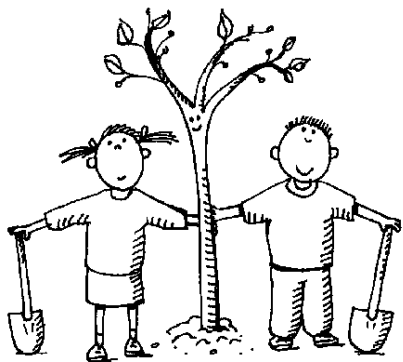
274-3538 Home / 244-1900 Work / ggillette@aol.com

IPNA Membership Note

As you know, IPNA has begun mailing the quarterly newsletter instead of hand-delivering it to each door. We encourage everyone to pay IPNA dues to help cover the postage costs. To become an official IPNA member please send your \$10.00 membership fee to:

Kevin Edwards / IPNA Treasurer
530 44th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

This flat fee covers both individuals and families and supports not only the newsletter but other activities as well. Checks may be made out to IPNA with 'membership' written on the note line. Goodwill donations beyond the membership fee are always welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.



March Quarterly Meeting Details

The issues of global warming and energy consumption have been at the forefront of the news in the past couple of years. The United States is documented as the worst offender when it comes to both energy consumption and energy waste. We all need to act in some way to lessen our 'carbon footprints' on earth and neighbor Mark Kane is leading the call for action.

At our quarterly meeting on March 8th, he will introduce the idea of an IPNA Green Initiative. He will describe what the green movement is about and how we as individuals and as a neighborhood group can become involved. He will also outline his initiative plan which will consist of incremental steps that each of us can take to improve our home's energy efficiency. Some of the steps are as easy as changing to a different type of light bulb or addressing some areas of our homes that allow a significant amount of heat (or AC) to escape.

Other steps will involved collecting data and comparing one year's consumption to the next after energy saving steps have been taken. Our efforts will be part of a neighborhood program that will be documented and hopefully highlighted in the press. Our neighbor, Mayor Frank Cownie, a green activist on a national level, will also contribute to the discussion and the action of our plan. We hope to partner with students and professors at Drake University and DMACC, so we will have support and volunteers who can help with the actual tasks of implementing steps.

IPNA feels that this can be a very positive move forward for everyone in that we will all benefit. We can also be a neighborhood group on the cutting edge of such change and perhaps become a model for others to follow.

Please join us in the discussion. Plan to attend the March Quarterly meeting on the 8th. If you have questions, please contact Graham Gillette at:

274-3538 -or- ggillette@aol.com

MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC

Planning in the Works



Last year a Memorial Day Weekend Picnic event was held in the common ground area behind houses in Gil-Mar Park. A potluck supper was served, pick-up games were played, music from Paul Goodwin's boombox collection entertained, a movie was shown and our neighborhood group of kids eagerly ushered in the outdoor play season and approaching summer. We would like to again host such an event and perhaps even turn it into a neighborhood tradition. More information will follow in future newsletters but if you'd like to participate in the planning of this event or would like more information, please contact : Paul Goodwin / 279-0502
pgoodwin@mchsi.com

ESPRESSO 42

at Plymouth Church

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If you haven't already discovered Espresso 42, we encourage you to visit this relatively new coffee shop in our neighborhood. It's located on the west side of Plymouth Church which is easily accessed by the semi-circle drive. It's a lovely atmosphere and within walking distance of our front doors! A lovely place to meet a friend and a convenient place for a morning meeting. Here are the hours of operation:

Tuesday - Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. — serving breakfast & lunch

Saturday : 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon — serving breakfast

Sunday : 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 — serving beverages

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Evenings : 4:00 to 8:00 — serving cold sandwiches



IPNA IN WINTER

Winter's harsh but artistic touch transformed the neighborhood on February 24th and 25th. At left a branch weighed down by ice and snow. At right, Emily Weeks by the monument sign on the morning of Sunday the 25th. She said her walk around the neighborhood that morning was like stepping into Narnia!

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

- IPNA would like to remind neighbors to observe and obey the City's leash law. We have received concerns about the mess that loose dogs have made throughout the neighborhood. Please respect your neighbor by not allowing your dogs to roam freely throughout the neighborhood doing what dogs do. Invisible fences are a wonderful new invention for those who wish to allow their dogs the freedom of an outdoor existence.

- Since we ran the neighborhood note on "Bob" the beautiful pheasant that 'blew' into the yard of Mary & Ted Brubaker (44th Street) and ended up staying in residence for nearly a month, it's been suggested that neighbors submit their own animal stories. The IPNA area is surprisingly rich in wildlife. In addition to the more common urban sitings of raccoon, opossum and bats, we have also seen fox, falcon and deer - everything from fawns to big bucks - in our backyards. If you've got an interesting wildlife story to tell, we'd love to hear it. Give newsletter editor Theresa Weeks a call at 255-7510 or email your story to her at tcweeks@qwest.net. We'll publish as many as we receive.

- In addition to dog droppings, we've also received some complaints about people parking in front of fire hydrants. Perhaps some of the violators are Roosevelt students looking for a convenient parking space by the bridge, but please remind guests that we need to keep space clear in front of all hydrants in case of an emergency. Thanks!

- The recent winter storm left many neighbors with downed limbs, and branches, some of significant size. We checked with the city about removal options and as of this writing (February 28th) the only branches that will be cleared without charge are those that fell in the right of way or the islands. Private debris will need to be cut, bundled and put out with a purchased yard waste sticker which is normal procedure. The public works officer that we spoke with today did say however that the city council was going to be discussing this issue and that perhaps there may be some relief coming for pick up. We must go to press before knowing the outcome of the discussion, so watch the newspaper for announcements or call Greg Cloe, City of Des Moines Public Works at 237-1398 for more current information.

- The recent City of Des Moines 2006 Performance Report features a serigraph print by IPNA resident and artist, Gene Hamilton. The image, found on page 18 of the publication, is titled *Crabapple Blossoms on Harwood Drive*. The 44th & Harwood island (prior to the big rock placement) is visible in the center of the piece. Congratulations to Gene for being one of the artists selected to grace the pages of this report.

City Committee Opportunity

Des Moines Neighbors has been asked to form a committee of neighborhood representatives to work with the City Manager and the Human Resources Director to have a focused discussion about the qualities and abilities a new Police Chief for our city should have. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Ami at the Neighborhood Resource Office at 280-1807.

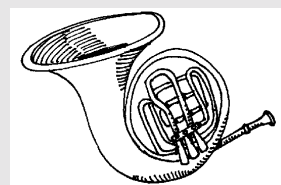
ROOSEVELT MUSIC EVENTS

The Roosevelt High School band will be hosting it's 8th annual STEPPIN' OUT SWING DANCE. The school's jazz bands will be featured along with guest bands and performers. A silent auction, 50/50 raffle and prize drawings will complete the evening. The date for the event is :

Saturday, May 19th, 2007
at the Val Air Ballroom.

Tickets will be sold prior to the event as well as at the door that evening. The proceeds from the auction and raffle will benefit the Roosevelt Band program. If you want to come take a turn on the dance floor and listen to some fine music made by the young people of our community, save the date for Steppin' Out!

The Roosevelt Orchestra will present its Spring and final concert of the year on **Tuesday, May 1st at 7:30 p.m.** in the Roosevelt auditorium. This concert will feature a full orchestra (with horns, woodwinds and percussion) and a special program will be given. The event is free and open to the public. It will be a wonderful performance!



Annual Christmas Walk a Delicious Success!

IPNA's annual tradition of the Christmas Walk proved to be a highlight of the 2006 year and a festive way for neighbors to welcome the holiday season. Three households hosted the evening which included a glorious showcase of goodies baked and prepared with the help of nearby neighbors. Luminaries lit the paths to welcoming front doors where cheer and chatter was shared by all. We would like to take a moment to thank the families who made the effort to decorate in time for the event and who warmly welcomed everyone into their homes.



DAVID & JILL DEFOREST COLVIG

Jill and David DeForest Colvig (646 Harwood) and neighbors surrounding them prepared a dining room table full of delights. Among the delicious dips and chips and candies was a full salmon smoked by David himself. Fresh strawberries, raspberries and pineapple crowned the table with jewel-like color. Thank you Jill and David for sharing your home with us on a cold night in December!



MARY & WADE KRIEG

Wade & Mary Krieg (691 Harwood) can ALWAYS be counted on for an exotic flare with the food they prepare for guests. In their second (perhaps more?) time as Holiday hosts they did not disappoint with their homemade Chicken satay, hot and

spicy soup and egg rolls. Eating these in their dining room appointed with decorative Asian screens and artwork had the power to transport you to a foreign country. Thank you Wade and Mary for sharing your culinary talents so freely!

Robert & Rosemary Peterson's home at 668 42nd Street has a rich history which they graciously shared with guests the night of the walk. Never before have we had such an array of dessert items as was displayed on Rosemary's dining room table. The large variety of cakes, cookies, bars and pastries left even those with some degree of willpower tempted to try more. With the Peterson's beautiful Victorian decor and a blazing fire in the fireplace, one could almost imagine what Christmas felt like nearly 100 years ago. Thanks Bob and Rosemary for sharing that history with us.



ROSEMARY & BOB PETERSON WITH
THEIR YOUNG GRANDDAUGHTER

While we're still in the midst of snow and winter (boy are we ever!) it's not too early to start thinking about Christmas 2007. If you would be interested in serving as one of the hosts for this year's Walk we would love to hear from you. Please contact one of the board members listed in the column on the front page of this newsletter. Individual hosts do not shoulder the entire job of preparing all of the food and drink. That is a shared, cooperative effort that the IPNA board facilitates. The Christmas Walk is a wonderful time to catch up with neighbors, introduce yourself to neighbors (we're really a friendly bunch), to try out both new and tried and true recipes (it seems that every year there is talk of doing an IPNA cookbook after we sample all of the delicious goodies that folks make) and to take a moment, as you walk from house to house, to realize what a special neighborhood we live in. Until Christmas rolls around again.....good cheer to all!

IPNA

c/o 635 Harwood
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

TO : Ingersoll Park Neighborhood Resident

Planning Ahead IPNA Calendar

- **MARCH 8th** - Spring Quarterly Meeting *at 7:00 p.m.* Plymouth Congregational Church
~ Rm. 304 - Enter on the west side of the building off the semi-circle drive (by coffee shop)
- **June 7th** - Summer Quarterly Meeting - Location to be announced - Election of officers
and continued discussion of our green initiative.
- **July, 2007** - Look for save-the-date announcement on Roosevelt Cultural District Festival