

ROCK-TALK

The Gibraltar Neighborhood
Association, Inc. Newsletter



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Restore Omaha info

What is a Neighborhood
Association?

Get to Know Your Neighbor
Connie Bartel

New Board Members

Visit the GNA website:
www.GibraltarNA.org



Upcoming Dates to Remember

- March 2-3
Restore Omaha Conf.
- **Friday, March 16**
GNA General Meeting
Bud & Susie Dew's
527 Clark Ave.
- March 17
HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S
DAY!
- March 29
Mayor's Breakfast
Tip Top Ballroom
1502 Cuming, Omaha

Downtown Neighborhood Alliance (DNA)

The DNA met 2/7/12, with new president Sheila Graham presiding.

Items discussed:

Restore Omaha Conference – we will have a table at the restore Omaha conference on March 2nd

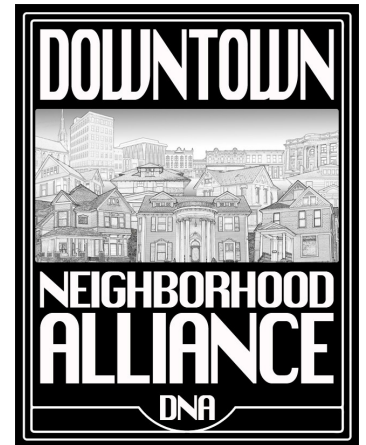
Thank you Project for all city workers that worked on the flood project

DNA was invited to attend Omaha Mayor Suttle's State of the City Speech on Feb 9th; Sheila will attend

Report from Nate Watson on the city council meeting

The McCormick Harvesting Machine Company building nomination for National Register of Historic Places was approved

In addition all NA's gave updates and discussed the upcoming Restore Omaha conference. For more information about the DNA, visit www.dnacb.com.



Mark Your Calendar: March GNA Meeting

The **March** GNA general meeting is **FRIDAY the 16th** at the home of Bud and Susie Dew, 527 Clark Ave., at 7:00 pm. Please bring a snack to share and invite a friend or neighbor that might be interested in joining. It will be a busy meeting with determining projects for the year and discussing the latest issues. Be sure and plan to stay for a bit of socializing and catch up on all the latest neighborhood news.

Please make it a point to come to the bi-monthly meetings. We need your input, suggestions, experience *and help* in making our neighborhood a clean, safe, wonderful place to live!

We hope to see you there! ■

Restore Omaha, 2012

Spend the day gathering ideas, solutions and inspiration to restore and preserve older properties! Did you know it's far more cost effective to rehabilitate an existing structure than to tear it down and build a new one in its place? Restore Omaha, a group of volunteers dedicated to preserve, restore and maintain pre-1950 buildings is now in it's 7th year of educating the public on the importance of preservation of older properties.

Cost to attend the March 3 conference is \$40. Admission includes the keynote lecture, three educational sessions, lunch, demonstrations and the Restoration Jam reception. The March 2 Friday night reception (at The Barnard Flats, a 1902 building at Park Ave & Leavenworth) is \$20 and includes complimentary food and drink.

Visit www.restoreomaha.org for full details and registration information. For questions call Barb Naughtin at 402-334-0269 or e-mail info@restoreomaha.org. ■



2012 RESTORE OMAHA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2012 8 TO 4:30 P.M.
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SOUTH CAMPUS - 27TH AND Q STREETS



Spend the day gathering ideas, solutions and inspiration to restore and preserve older properties.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Friday night reception at The Barnard Flats, a 1902 building at 804 Park Ave. designed by John Latenser and rehabilitated by Urban Village.
- Opening Session highlighting the current restoration of the Joel N. Cornish residence at 10th and Williams streets.
- Keynote by Patricia Gay, executive director of the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans and a powerful advocate for promoting the preservation of New Orleans' historic architecture, neighborhoods, economic development and tourism.
- Restore Jam! where all attendees are invited to share their current restoration project in five minutes or less.
- Plus ongoing workshops, an exhibit floor filled with companies and organizations specializing in the needs of old-home owners plus plenty of opportunities to network with other old-home owners and lovers.

For more information and to register visit www.restoreomaha.org or call Barb Naughtin at 402-334-0269.



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Our Past, Present & Future: George Washington, Part I

To prepare for GNA's future, we must know our past, by Liz Matis

In our last Rock Talk I dedicated this feature to Mathew Tinley; it was my thought to continue discussing the history and the Generals that lived in “General’s Row,” the area described by our community where our famous military residents lived. I planned to talk about who they were and what they did. But as I was preparing my notes I decided to do that article in our next newsletter, since this is the birth month of two of our most famous Presidents. I decided to research the greatest and little known facts about our first President, known as “The Father” of our Country, George Washington. His life, family, accomplishments, his beliefs, his successes and the facts surrounding his death.

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732 to Augustine Washington (1694-April 23, 1743) and Mary Ball Washington (1708-1789) at his Father’s “Pope Creek Estate” near present day Colonial Beach in Westmoreland County, Virginia. His father owned over 10,000 acres and was part owner and director of an iron mine. His mother was orphaned at age 12. Mary was Augustine’s second wife and they married in 1731. George had two half brothers – Lawrence and Augustine; three brothers – Samuel, John & Charles; and one sister – Mrs. Betty Lewis. George lost his father at age 11. Washington’s mother was protective and demanding, keeping him from joining the British navy as his older half-brother Lawrence wanted. Lawrence owned Mount Vernon and George lived with him from the age of 16. He was schooled entirely in Colonial Virginia and never went to college. He was good at math which suited his chosen profession of surveying. Washington took only one trip outside of what is now the United States in his life, he went to Barbados with Lawrence in 1751. The purpose of the trip was to find relief for Lawrence’s tuberculosis with the warmer weather. Instead, while there Washington contracted small-pox, which scarred his face for life. When Lawrence died of smallpox and tuberculosis in 1752, he left Mount Vernon to George.

Washington’s early career began in 1749 when he was appointed as surveyor to Culpepper County, Virginia after a trek for Lord Fairfax into the Blue Ridge Mountains. He joined the Virginia militia in 1752. He created and then was forced to surrender Fort Necessity to the French. He resigned from the military in 1754 and rejoined in 1766 as an aide-de-camp to General Edward Braddock. When Braddock was killed during the French and Indian War (1754-63), he managed to stay calm and keep the unit together as they retreated. He was in the military from 1752 to 1758 before being elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1759.

Married life:

George married Martha Dandridge Custis on January 6, 1759. She was a widow and they were both 27 years old. George and Martha never had any children together. With George’s bouts of smallpox and tuberculosis earlier in life, they may have left him unable to have children. In spite of their inability to have their own children, George and Martha raised two children from her first marriage:

> Martha Parke Custis (1756- June 19 1773), known as “Patsy,” was the *second* child, but she was the first to pass. She died prematurely, about age 16 with George Washington on his knees praying, and weeping at her passing!

> John Parke Custis (November 27, 1754 – November 5, 1781), known as “Jackie.” He died at age 27 during the Revolutionary War, having served as an aide to Washington at the Battle of Yorktown. He contracted camp fever and died on November 5, 1781, leaving behind two children. George raised John’s children as his own:

> Eleanor Parke Custis (March 31, 1779 – July 15, 1852), known as Nelly.

> George Washington Parke Custis –(April 30, 1781- October 10,1857)

Continued...

Famous Relatives & Facts:

John Parke Custis married *Eleanor Calvert*, granddaughter of Charles Calvert, 5th Baron Baltimore. The Calvert family was the founding family of the colony of Maryland.

George Washington's step-grandson, George Washington Parke Custis had one surviving daughter named *Mary Anna Randolph Custis*. She married *Robert E. Lee*, who became the commander of the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

George Washington and Robert E. Lee were third cousins, twice removed.

George's nephew, *Bushrod Washington* was appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States by President John Adams in 1799, the same year George Washington died.

Washington's Religious Views:

George Washington was a member of the Anglican Church of England. With their King as the head of the Church, England and their ministers PREACHED AGAINST George Washington continually.

The Methodist Church was just starting in the US, with Francis Asbury the leader, who strongly supported Washington and REFUSED to go back to England for safety!

>> George Washington was baptized by Baptist Chaplain John Gano of Kentucky; this is the same Chaplain that Washington had pray the final prayer that officially ended the Revolutionary War.

>> George Washington received Holy Communion from *Presbyterian Minister Doctor Timothy Johnes* of Morristown, whose Church-house Washington used as a hospital for troops while wintering at the fabled *Valley Forge*.

Washington never communed again with the Anglicans, because his affection was almost equally divided among Baptists, Congregationalists (Puritans) Presbyterians and Lutherans; he supported them all and selected none above the others.

George Washington was also a strong *Mason*, which in his days was the General Christian organization enveloping all other Christian denomination.

He personally promoted a project to evangelize Indians that was organized by *Selina, Countess of Huntingdon*. Washington had a portrait of the Countess hanging in his house; the Countess was one of *the leading evangelical ministers of the day*.

Offices held by Washington:

>> Appointed Adjutant General of Virginia militia in 1752 at the age of 19, making him chief administrative officer of the militia, and became a Major at the age of 20.

>> Appointed Lieutenant and Colonel of Virginia Regiment – 1754.

>> Commander of Virginia House of Burgesses at age 27, 1759-1774.

>> Justice of the Peace – Fairfax County, Virginia at age 28, 1780-1774.

>> Delegate to Continental Congress age 42, 1774-1775.

>> Appointed Commander-in-Chief of Continental Forces by Continental Congress age 43, 1775-1783.

>> Presiding officer over Constitutional Convention – 1787.

>> First President of the United States – 1789-1797, elected twice.

>> George Washington's first involvement in the resistance against Great Britain was in 1769 when he introduced a bill in the House of Burgesses calling for a boycott of all British goods. The bill was written by George Mason.

>> The boycott was in response to the Townsend Acts, a set of laws created by Parliament that taxed imports to the American colonies. The colonists believed the acts were illegal and violated their rights as British citizens.

Continued...

Did Washington see military action during the war?

George Washington was the Commander of the Continental Forces. There were many battles of the Revolutionary War that were fought by Washington's other generals, but Washington was present, fighting and leading the charge at the following battles:

Siege of Boston, Battle of Long Island, Battle of Kip's Bay, Battle of Harlem Heights, Battle of White Plains, Battle of Fort Mifflin, the Battle of Red Bank (Christmas Night Crossing the Delaware!) which actually occurred in two attacks some weeks apart, Battle of Assunpink Creek, Battle of Princeton, Battle of Brandywine, Battle of Germantown, Battle of Red Bank, Battle of Monmouth, and the Siege of Yorktown.

Washington's Accomplishments while in office:

- >> Chaired Constitutional convention in 1789
- >> Averted war with France or Britain in early part of his presidency, always promoting neutrality toward conflicts between other nations.
- >> Stopped the first uprising against Federal government, known as the Whiskey Rebellion, in 1794
- >> By voluntarily retiring at the end of his second term, Washington established the American precedent of a non-violent transfer of power to new administrations.
- >> Oversaw creation of first National Bank
- >> Oversaw creation of Jay Treaty which ended many conflicts remaining with Britain at the end of the Revolutionary War
- >> In 1795, Pinckney's Treaty helped relations with Spain by creating a boundary between the United States and Spanish held Florida. The US was allowed to travel the entire Mississippi for the purpose of trade.

Washington's Personal Information:

Personal mottoes:

"Deeds, not words, For God and My Country."

Character & disposition:

>> Often revered for his retiring from public service and going back to private life, rather than seeking to extend his power as many monarchs did. He was

thought to be very shy and reserved, was seen to be very humble, not even wanting positions of power.

>> He turned down a \$25,000 salary as President, as well as rejecting all salary as general (an enormous amount of money at the time). Known for his "deeds, not words" motto, he was not concerned about leaving a "legacy," and thus serving his country for 25 years without receiving a penny!

Facts many may not know:

>> Due to an impending war with France, President John Adams asked Washington to take the position as "Commander of all United States Armies" in 1798, when Washington was age 66.

>> Washington served in this position from July 13, 1798 until his death on December 14, 1799, planning and strategizing for a possible war with France, BUT THE WAR NEVER OCCURRED.

>> In December 1753, Governor Dinwiddie sent Washington with a British ultimatum that commanded the French to stop their developments in the Ohio country. He assessed the French military strength and position, and delivered the ultimatum at the French Fort Le Boeuf at present day Waterford, Penn.

This episode was one of the events that set in motion the French and Indian war. Washington's report was examined on both sides of the Atlantic; this was the first time he became known internationally.

>> After the disastrous Monongahela expedition to take back Ohio from the French, in which General Edward Braddock was killed, Washington wrote to his brother that God had protected him, saying he had two horses shot out from under him and multiple bullet holes through his clothes. He was later referred to as "The Bulletproof" Washington!

>> Washington proposed to Martha Dandridge Custis after knowing her for only three weeks and meeting her only twice.

>> Washington was nominated for Commander-in-Chief by future president John Adams on June 15, 1775.

>> Martha Ball Washington owned an estate called "The White House" on the Pamunkey River in New Kent, County, Virginia when she married George.

Continued...

>> Martha Washington burned all of the letters between she and George upon his death to protect their privacy.

>> George Washington never wore a wig as some did in that day. He did powder his hair though, and wore it in a pony tail that was sometimes put in a silk bag.

What others of his day had to say about Washington:

>> After the Revolutionary War, George Washington retired to Mt. Vernon in 1783. King George III couldn't believe it. He reportedly said about Washington, "If he does that, he will be the greatest man in the world."

>> When Henry Lee delivered George Washington's funeral oration, he said this of Washington was, "A citizen, first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen."

>> "Let the deist reflect on this, and remember that Washington, the saviour of his country, did not disdain to acknowledge and adore a Great Saviour, whom deists and infidels affect to slight and despise." — Jonathan Mitchell Sewall, in an address to Portsmouth, New Hampshire on December 31, 1799.

>> "His personal bravery, and the desire he has of animating his troops by example, make him fearless of danger. This occasions us much uneasiness. But Heaven, which has hitherto been his shield, I hope will still continue to guard so valuable a life." — an anonymous soldier, 1777.

Washington's Farewell Address – The Real Story:

His Farewell Address by all accounts is the most famous and best-known of Washington's speeches. It was never actually delivered orally by Washington. By his own arrangement, it first appeared in a newspaper at Philadelphia. It was published seven days later in the Independent Chronicle – September 26, 1796.

The Chronicle, published in Boston by Thomas Adams & Isaac Larkin, was a leading New England voice of the Republican Party. Its pages contained a number of outspoken contributors who could be counted on to regularly issue vigorous articles on the Federalists.

Washington's Farewell Address was similar to one he had prepared at the end of his first term, when he had considered retiring from office. At that time, he had asked fellow Virginian James Madison to prepare a draft. Madison did so, but the Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson and Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton prevailed on Washington to serve a second term.

By May 1796, Washington's decision to leave office was made. He took Madison's notes and wrote a first draft for the new address. He turned to Hamilton to prepare the address. The New York lawyer prepared two versions. One was Hamilton's new draft with additional material. Another reworked the Madison version. Washington preferred the new Hamilton work. Over the summer they exchanged drafts and comments.

As Washington's chief military aide during the Revolution, and as secretary of the Treasury for more than five years, Hamilton learned well the president's ideas, principles and writing style. Most historians have agreed that "even if the words were largely Hamilton's, the ideas were distinctly Washington's."

In his Address, Washington announced his planned withdrawal from Politics "after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its (America's) service." He then set forth his reasons against running for a third term. As if to bolster his argument, he states: "While choice and prudence invite me to quit the political scene, patriotism does not forbid it." Washington foresaw the stresses and strains which might imperil the new nation: "The Unity of Government which constitutes you one people is also now dear to you. It is justly so; for it is a main Pillar in the Edifice of your real independence, the support of your tranquility at home; your peace abroad; of your safety; of your prosperity of that very Liberty which you so highly prize."

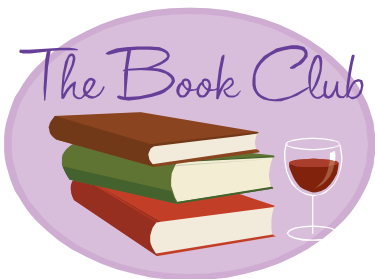
Washington went on to knit together America's diverse citizenry into a "common cause" and a "common country." "Citizens by birth or choice, of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of American, which

belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of difference, you have the same Religion, Manners, Habits & political Principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The independence and liberty you possess are the work of joint councils, and joint efforts; of common dangers, sufferings and success.”

Washington concluded his farewell: “In offering to you, my countrymen, these counsels of an old and affectionate friend, I dare not hope they will make the strong and lasting impression I could wish; that they will control the usual current of the passions, or

prevent our nation from running the course which has hitherto marked the destiny of nations. But, if I may even flatter myself that they may be productive of some partial benefit, some occasional good; that they may now and then recur to moderate the fury of party spirit, to warn against the mischiefs of foreign intrigue, to guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism; this hope will be a full recompense for the solicitude for your welfare, by which they have been dictated. The name of American, which to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism.”

Watch for PART 2 of the fascinating story of George Washington in our April issue!



The GNA Book Club is a fun, social gathering where we get together and share a bit of news, a glass of wine and discuss our latest book assignment. We are currently reading “**The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid**” by **Bill Bryson**. By the time you read this, we’ll have had our February meeting at the home of Patty Gillespie. Watch the GNA website for details on our March meeting. If you enjoy reading, contact Patti Hannan for more information. We’d love to see you at our next meeting! ■

News Tidbits

Box Tops for Education

Many of you have noticed the symbol “box tops for education” on the tops of many of your favorite food products: cereals, crackers, cake mixes, and many General Mills products. If you aren’t currently collecting these box tops for your favorite school, please save them and give them to Liz Matis. She is collecting them for the St. Joseph Indian School at Pine Ridge Reservation. If you have questions, call Liz at 323-6400. ■

Mayor’s Breakfast, March 29th

The Neighborhood Center’s Mayor’s Breakfast will be held on Thursday, March 29, 2012, starting at 7:30 a.m. at the Tip Top Ballroom in Omaha. The Tip Top is located at 1502 Cuming Street.

ATTENTION: DOG OWNERS!

It has come to our attention that there are some dog owners that are not very responsible/considerate. Please remember that it is your duty as a dog owner/walker to “PICK UP” after your pet. Leaving “doggie poo” on someone else’s property or in Kirn Park, especially near the children’s playground, is not only inconsiderate, but a health risk for those who play there. So please be a good citizen and leave property as you found



it. Bags are available in the park and it only takes a second to put a plastic grocery bag in your pocket for that daily walk. Your neighbors will be grateful! ■

What is a Neighborhood Association? *by Paulette Brandt*

It occurred to me that there may be folks in our neighborhood that do not know what a neighborhood association is. I hope to clarify that.

Q: What is a Neighborhood association?

A: A neighborhood association consists of neighbors gathering together for social time, and to discuss issues that pertain to all. It could be “do you know a good contractor?” or “Did you hear about the new folks moving in?” or a birth or death. Or even some issue within the city that might affect us.

It is **NOT** a HOMEOWNER’S ASSOCIATION, that can dictate house color, fence size and type, or where you can park your car. We wish only to make our neighborhood a better safer place for all.

Q: Who can be a member?

A: Any resident of the neighborhood. You need not be a home owner to join.

Also, Landlords of rental property in the neighborhood may be members. (Might be a good way to keep an eye on your property.)

Q: What are the dues, and what are they for?

A: The annual dues are \$25.00. Due January thru March. If you join later in the year, dues will be due again in January.

Dues go to purchase welcome packets for newcomers, postage and cards, and for the food for any “all neighborhood” functions. Also for special projects.

Over view: most of the “work” is done by the Board, made up of 9 volunteers.

They are nominated by the general membership and meet monthly. Any paid member may be a board member, and has a vote on any issue that comes up for vote at the meetings. General meetings are every ODD-numbered month, and members volunteer their homes as meeting places. It’s fun, especially in this historic area, to see all the great vintage homes. We generally all contribute the refreshments at the meetings to make it easier for the host.

We also have incorporated a Neighborhood Watch into our association, which notifies participants of any crime in, or close to, the neighborhood.

These are some of the projects we had last year:

- We helped in the flood prevention.
- We partnered with Fairmont Park neighborhood to purchase a security camera for Kirm Park and helped improve the grandstand area
- Participated in Clean Sweep initiative as part of Celebrate CB
- Several of our members took part in the Preserve CB holiday dinner
- We made a donation to Chanticleer for restorations
- Adopted a family for Christmas

If you are not currently active in the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, we hope you will consider coming to a future meeting to see what we’re all about and meet some of your neighbors! ■

GNA Board: New Officers Elected!

Every year we elect an alternating number of new board members: in one year we elect five position, the next year, four, and then back to five the following year, and so on. This year we had four positions open.

At the first meeting of the year we nominated and approved four gracious volunteers: Kent Madison, Dave Adams, Harold Compton and Bob Yanders. They each will serve a two year term. Then next year we will need to fill five vacancies.

Board members terms run for two years. And, if nominated, board members may run for consecutive terms.

Please consider running for a future board position. It’s only through the help of active neighborhood members that we are able to establish and accomplish goals! Please also help us welcome and thank our new board members! ■

Get to Know Your Neighbor: Connie Bartel, *by Cory Peters*

Many of us know that Colleen “Connie” Bartel is a long-time resident of the Gibraltar Neighborhood. But did you know that the house she lives in at 116 3rd Street is also the house in which she grew up?

Connie’s grandparents and parents were born in Council Bluffs. Her father was a railroad man, working as a yard master for Milwaukee railroad, and her mother was a homemaker. The Hannums (Connie’s maiden name) bought the house at 116 3rd Street in 1934.

Connie tells me that she has the original deed for the house, and that it was moved by former owner F.W. Dean from the corner of Turley and 3rd (where the Wadsworth house is now) to its present location in 1907. She recalled that after moving the home, Dean lived there for a few years, and that there were maybe two or three other families that lived in the home prior to her parents buying it in 1934.

Growing up, Connie had a twin sister, as well as another sister and a brother. The four siblings enjoyed playing in the neighborhood, going to Fairmount Park (she remembers that there was a ZOO there with a bear in it!), and she has fond memories of playing on the Gibraltar hill before it was torn down.

Connie graduated from A.L. in 1943 and went on to Grinnell college to study vocal music. She and Dorothy “Bumpy” Bennett even sang in a quartet together in their younger years! She still enjoys music to this

day, and plays piano regularly.

Although Connie went to High School with Art “Buzz” Bartel, he was a couple years older and they didn’t really run in the same circles. It wasn’t until after he was home from World War II the she got a phone call from him asking her on a date. The rest, as they say, is history. They were married for 60 years.

Speaking of Buzz, he was a prominent fixture in Council Bluffs for many, many years in the Insurance industry. A decorated war veteran (he received the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and the Silver Star), he was in the Seventh Infantry and fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

In addition to having a well-known sense of humor, Buzz was active in the community and his church. Connie was also an active volunteer, giving her time to the Dodge House, C.B. Library, Omaha Symphony Guild, and many other organizations.

Connie and Buzz had three sons—Tom, Mark and Matt. The boys didn’t grow up in the family home on 3rd Street, though. It wasn’t until Connie’s parents passed away

that Connie and Buzz were able to purchase the 3rd Street home from her parents’ estate in 1978. They lived there from then on.

Connie and Buzz spent many happy years golfing, playing cards and traveling. She said they pretty much drove everywhere, from North Carolina to California to Denver and many points in between.

These days, Connie keeps busy with her multiple bridge groups, socializing with friends and producing beautiful creations with her needlepoint and knitting. She loves being in the neighborhood, and says she is grateful to have such wonderful neighbors. The next time you see Connie out and about, be sure to stop and say hello! ■



January 24, 2012: General Meeting Minutes

The January meeting was held at the home of Liz Matis, 203 Turley Ave. on Tues., January 24, 2012.

The meeting commenced at 7:21 p.m. with greetings and a welcome from our President, Paulette Brandt.

Due to a large volume of new attendees and guests, everyone introduced themselves and said a bit about their history with the neighborhood.

Paulette then continued with a re-cap of our 2011 accomplishments:

- > Partnered with the Fairmount Neighborhood Assn. to buy the security camera for Kirn Park Helped with the flood drive
- > Participated in the Clean Sweep program
- > Started a Neighborhood Watch program (discussion followed regarding recent crimes/crime resolution/recent activity)
- > Participated in the Preserve C.B. dinner
- > Donated money to Chanticleer Theater for their fundraising efforts in hopes of keeping them open and operational
- > "Adopted" a family for Christmas

Discussion then followed about our GOALS for the coming year (2012):

- > We are hoping to get a grant written to help us purchase historic signage for homes (similar to what they have done in the Fairmount neighborhood)
- > We would like to host a Spring party
- > Efforts to develop an Historic Overlay with the DNA to prevent future home loss

Nominations were then sought to fill the open Board Member vacancies. Volunteers were nominated and unanimously approved. New board members are: Dave Adams, Harold Compton, Kent Madison and Bob Yanders.

We discuss the value of having "block captains" throughout the neighborhood. These captains would be in charge of disseminating information to assigned houses in the event of emergencies or other

events deemed important or urgent. We will be asking for volunteers at our next meeting.

Discussion of the Brick Street Repair initiative. This effort is still underway but going slowly.

Discussion of the "Main Street U.S.A." project: Funds need to be raised to promote C.B. and revitalize the downtown area, also including our historic neighborhoods.

Additional discussion was held on a variety of topics, including:

There seems to be some progress on the conversion of Kirn Gym into upscale apartments.

The London House was sold for \$30,000. Hopes are that the new owner will seek to restore it to its grandeur.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 for social time and to enjoy the amazing variety of tasty food and beverages provided by our hosts and brought by guests.

WE NEED YOU!!

Volunteer organizations can't be successful without VOLUNTEERS! Please consider giving a bit of your time by helping on a committee, helping organize an event or opening your home for a meeting! Thank you!



Were you at the January meeting?

If not, you missed the fun! Plan to join us at the March meeting!



Your Newsletter Staff

Cory Peters

712-329-8526

Paulette Brandt

712-328-7399

Liz Matis

712-323-6400

We welcome your input!
Please contact us with suggestions on content you want to see covered. ■

Visit us online:

www.GibraltarNA.org

Your GNA Board:

Paulette Brandt, President

712-328-7399

Susie Dew, Vice President

712-366-7606

Liz Matis, Secretary

712-323-6400

Mary Madison, Treasurer

712-328-8073

Steve Gorman

712-256-8890

Kent Madison

712-323-8073

Dave Adams

712-329-9885

Bob Yanders

712-322-2214

Harold Compton

712-325-0324

RECIPE Corner: Crab Cheesecake from Liz Matis

Ingredients

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Cup Ritz Crackers, crushed | 3 tbsp. melted butter |
| 2 8oz. cream cheese, room temp | 3 large eggs |
| 1/4 cup sour cream | 1 tsp. lemon juice |
| 1 tbsp. grated onion | 1/4 tsp. Old Bay seasoning |
| 2 drops Tobasco sauce (or to taste) | 1/4 tsp. ground black pepper |
| 1 cup canned lump crabmeat | 1/2 cup sour cream |

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Mix together the cracker crumbs and butter and use it to line a 9" springform pan. Bake about 10 min. Set aside to cool. Reduce over to 325.

With an electric mixer, beat together until fluffy the cream cheese, eggs, and 1/4 C. of the sour cream. Add the lemon juice, onion and black pepper. Stir in crabmeat and mix well. Pour into the cooled crust and bake 50 minutes until the cake sets.

Remove from oven and run a knife along the edge of the cake, loosening it from the pan. Cool on a wire rack. Remove the sides of the pan and spread the cake with the remaining sour cream. Serves 12.

Note: you can add some garnishes to the top, such as green onions and chopped ripe olives or red bell peppers for decoration.

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

- "Happiness is not a destination. It is a method of life." — Burton Hills
- "Our dreams are limited only by the size of our hope." — Anonymous
- "It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves." — Sir Edmund Hillary



**HAPPY
ST. PATRICK'S
DAY!**

Gibraltar Neighborhood Association: Membership Registration Form

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Become a Gibraltar Neighborhood Association Member!! Yearly dues are \$25 per household. In order to be eligible to vote for board candidates and other issues, you must be a paid association member. Make checks payable to and mail payment to:

Gibraltar Neighborhood Association ■ P.O. Box 1971 ■ Council Bluffs, IA 51502-1971