



ROCK•TALK

the newsletter of

The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

JANUARY 2017: Brick Street Meeting!

Be sure to attend the GNA General Meeting on **Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Social Hall at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. We'll be addressing the topic of BRICK STREETS: how do people feel about them? (Like? Don't like?) What can the City do to keep them maintained? Which streets are more "valuable" than others to keep as brick paved? Which streets need the most TLC, and more. **Matt Cox, Council Bluffs City Engineer**, will be on hand to answer your questions about our brick streets. *NOTE: this will NOT be a b*tch session about the streets!!* Your opinion does matter, but civility and courtesy will be enforced, period. So, come prepared with thoughtful questions, helpful suggestions, and an open mind. Better yet, come with **IDEAS** on how our neighborhood can help make our streets smoother, safer & more attractive!

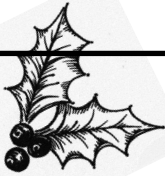


See you at the meeting!!

FUTURE MEMBER MEETINGS (Mark your calendars now!)

Please add these 2017 meeting dates to your calendar & plan to attend!

SATURDAY, March 18, 10:00 a.m. // Wed. May 17, 6:00 p.m. // Wed. July 19, 6:00 p.m. //
Wed. September 20, 6:00 p.m. // Wed. November 15, 6:00 p.m.



HOLIDAY PARTY REMINDER!!

FOURTH QUARTER SOCIAL! Celebrate the holidays with your neighbors at the *beautiful* historic home of Chris & Steve Gorman, 203 5th Avenue, on **Saturday evening December 10th, at 6:30 p.m.** We are including this event in the City's "100 Block Parties" initiative, and in keeping with their "UN" theme, have titled it: "*UNder the Mistletoe!*" Your tummy will be happy, as the Gormans will serve pulled pork sandwiches (YUMMM). You can add to the fun by bringing a side dish or dessert to share, OR a bottle or two of wine! Catch up with your neighbors and make some new friends! **Welcome the holidays at this fun event!!**

WHAT: Gibraltar Holiday Party!

WHEN: Saturday, December 10th, 2016
6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

WHERE: 203 5th Ave. / Gorman House

WHO: YOU! (well-behaved children welcome)



HELP NEEDED – SNOW REMOVAL

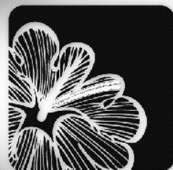
Our Savior's Lutheran Church is in need of an individual(s) to remove snow from the sidewalks around the church, Education Unit and Green space.

Compensation will be provided. If you (or someone you know) is interested, contact George DeWitt, 712-328-8716 or 402-639-4388. Thank you!



HELP NEEDED – HANDY MAN

The Property Team at **Our Savior's Lutheran Church** is in need of a "Handy Man" with basic carpentry skills to accomplish several projects around the OSL campus. *Compensation for this work will be provided.* If you know someone who might be interested, please contact George DeWitt, 712-328-8716 or 402-639-4388, with a name and phone number. Thank you!



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V.P. Position is OPEN!

WE NEED YOU!

After three years of service to the Gibraltar Neighborhood, we'd like to extend a **BIG thank you** to GNA's Vice President, Jeff Ketcham.



Jeff is stepping down from his role at the end of this year, so starting in January, 2017, your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association needs to fill the role of Vice President.

We have a good team in place, and are working with the momentum we've built the past couple of years. This is a great opportunity to connect with other neighborhood leaders, city leaders, community organizers, and more. More importantly, it's an opportunity to *make a real difference* in improving the community in which you live! Email Cory Peters at coryp241@yahoo.com if you are interested in volunteering for this role!!



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GIBRALTAR NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT

Gibraltar Neighborhood Assn now a 501(c)(3)!!

After much deliberation, extensive research, speaking with multiple other organizations at NUSA's national conference, and discussion among the GNA Board and General members, we reached the decision to obtain a 501c3 designation.

What is that, you might ask?

"Section 501(c)(3) is the portion of the US Internal Revenue Code that allows for federal tax exemption of nonprofit organizations, specifically those that are considered public charities, private foundations or private operating foundations. It is regulated and administered by the US Department of Treasury through the Internal Revenue Service."

This now means that donations to the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association are tax deductible) as allowable by law.) It will also enable us to broaden our search for grant monies, and strengthen our standing in grant applications. It does require some tax paperwork each year, but we've been told that's fairly minimal.

A big thank you to all who helped to make this happen. It took many hands, heads and hearts to bring this to fruition. Of particular note is Gibraltar resident and local lawyer, Kyle McGinn. Kyle was an invaluable resource and took the baton across the finish line for us. THANK YOU Kyle!!

2017 DUES are DUE!!

We are so grateful to have had record membership numbers in 2016, so let's continue that trend for 2017! Gibraltar Neighborhood Association dues are payable in January (the form is on last page of newsletter).

Save yourself a stamp and bring a check to the January meeting! Or, contact GNA Treasurer Tom Emmett (402-346-6734) to make arrangements and he can pick up the check from you! Or, drop a check in the mail (mailing address and form are on the last page of this newsletter!).

Your annual dues help fund projects like:

- > Quarterly Neighborhood Social Events
- > Neighborhood Identification Banners
- > Neighborhood Cleanup Day
- > Celebrate C.B. Parade Participation
- > National Neighborhood Conference engagement
- > Future projects like the Sidewalk Repair Initiative and possibly a community garden, etc., etc.!

Help keep Gibraltar moving in a positive direction by support through annual dues. THANK YOU!



Sidewalk Repair

Is your sidewalk in need of repair? As you know, sidewalks are the responsibility of the HOMEOWNER (not the City!), so if someone trips or falls and injures themselves on your sidewalk, you are liable! NOW is the time to work with our neighborhood association to get that fixed!

We've been waiting to get our 501c3 in order to apply for some grant money to help with the repair initiative. Reach out to any GNA Board Member (contact info on the back page) to get your name on the list of those needing repair help! More details to come as we begin to flesh out the program details!

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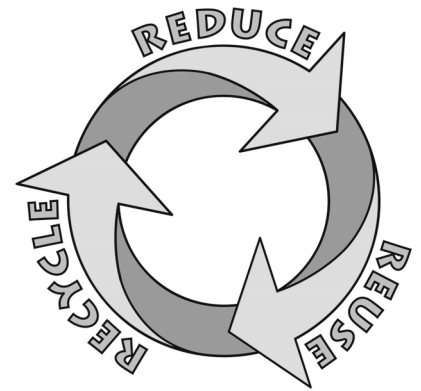
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Dedicated to providing friendly, professional and compassionate service, our team is devoted to giving your legal matters the time and attention they deserve.

Kyle & Dan McGinn, Attorneys and Gibraltar Neighborhood Residents

Your Checklist for Curbside Recycling

Whether you are new to curbside recycling or an experienced recycler, use this handy checklist to make your recycling efforts the best on the block.



Know Your Recycling Guidelines

Newspaper, cardboard, plastic jugs and bottles, glass jars and cans are mainstays of the recycling bin. But what do you do when you don't know for sure if an item can be recycled? Refer to your *Recycling and Solid Waste Services Guide*, of course. This booklet also tells you which weeks are Blue Weeks (paper, cardboard and glass containers) and Green Weeks (metal, #1-#5 plastic food and beverage containers).

When you put the right materials in your bin, you keep the program running efficiently. Non-recyclables in your bin actually reduce the value of the good recyclables, so it's important to remember: **when in doubt, give us a shout.** We're happy to answer any questions you have. See our contact information below.

Perfect Placement

Set bins four feet from your regular garbage, and place your lid on the container to prevent items from blowing. Since you have one lid, stack bins inside each other to further prevent items from blowing. Make sure cardboard is broken down/ flattened, and place these materials under your bins. Shredded paper can be placed in a brown bag in your bin.



Punctuality Matters

Get your bins to the curb by 7 a.m. on your recycling day to ensure collection. Sometimes routes and drivers change, which could cause your collection schedule to differ from the past.

Follow your checklist each week to ensure that your recycling is collected.

FROM PRESIDENT PETERS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all my Gibraltar Neighbors!

We sure had a nice spate of Fall weather, allowing us to finish yard clean-up and prep for the winter months. I'd like to personally thank my awesome neighbor Kathie Brandt, who cut down my peonies for me (with my two knee replacements this year, my poor garden is a *wreck*... ACK!). MUCH appreciated & Thanks Kathie!!



Holy cow, did we ever have a FUN night at the American Legion for our First Annual Quarter Auction!! MANY KUDOS and huge thanks to our hard-working fundraising committee, who put in LONG hours of work to pull off the event! We had a good turnout and raised **over \$600** that will go towards neighborhood projects!! I'd also like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to all those who donated items for the event! We had a wonderful mix of auction items, and all of them were awesome!! In anticipation that we will run this event next year, I hope you will consider helping out with the event, or at the very least, donating an auction item! Thanks also to Nate Brown for taking photos — Check out the auction photos page elsewhere in this issue, with even more photos on the Gibraltar website at www.GibraltarNA.org.

The **JANUARY General Meeting (Wednesday, 1/11 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm)** will be on the topic of Neighborhood Brick Streets. We'll have a City Engineer on hand to answer questions, and we'll be handing out a poll to evaluate how our residents feel about our brick streets. If you have an opinion one way or the other, or you are passionate about the future of our brick streets, don't miss this meeting!

GREAT NEWS: We have our 501c3 designation! Many, many thanks to Gibraltar resident and lawyer Kyle McGinn, who helped us through the piles of submission paperwork to apply for our tax exempt status! As of November, we are officially a non-profit organization, so your donations are officially tax deductible! Yay! This designation will also allow us to greatly expand our search for grants.

Speaking of grant applications... we're hoping we have devised a solution/workaround for partnering with neighbors and using grant funding to repair neighborhood sidewalks! If your sidewalk is in need of repair, NOW is the time to work with our neighborhood association to get that fixed! As you know, sidewalks are the responsibility of the HOMEOWNER (not the City!), so if someone trips or falls and injures themselves on your sidewalk, you are liable! Watch for more information coming in future issues and at future meetings, as we start to undertake this important repair and beautification project!



NOTE: Whether you are a GNA homeowner or renter, paid GNA member or NOT, you should *join the neighborhood networking group* at www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com. This site is an *excellent* way for residents to post news, share alerts, ask questions, pose ideas and get to know one another. There is NO COST to join the group, and there are no spam or pop-up ads. You just need to live in our neighborhood.

Wishing you and yours a warm and fulfilling holiday season,
Cory Peters — GNA President



The History We Live In: August Beresheim home



Submitted photo/Historic General Dodge House

The August Beresheim home, located at 621 S. Third St., features the Dutch gambrel roof on the front dormer, round posts on a full-length wrap-around front porch, sidelights at the entrance, decorative details in the lintels above the windows, and sawn wood brackets under the eaves.

By Mary Lou McGinn

The story of August Beresheim begins with the emigration of his father, John Beresheim, who, according to his obituary, “was born in Bavaria. He came to Council Bluffs as a young man around 1855 and was for a number of years engaged in general merchandising on the northwest corner of First Street and Broadway in company with Ferdinand Weis who, until a few years ago, was one of the leading implement men of the city but who removed to Des Moines.”

His mother was Ernestine Fisher, who was born in Saxony and came to Council Bluffs with her family in 1857. John and Ernestine were married in Council Bluffs and were the parents of two children, Julia (married Frank Keeline) and August. The family home, which no longer exists, was at 241 Frank St., where they lived when John died in 1909 and Ernestine died in 1918. They are buried in Walnut Hill Cemetery.

H.H. Field tells this story best in his “History of Pottawattamie County,” published in 1907: “Council Bluffs has become a great market for all kinds of agricultural machinery as well as wagons and carriages of every description. Among the first to engage largely in this business were Beresheim and Weis back in the early ‘60s. This was before the Union Pacific railroad was built, and freighting by wagon was the only means of transportation. The Schuttler wagon had achieved an enviable reputation for enduring the long, dry, hot trips without shrinking. *Continued on next page...*

“For shrinkage to occur and wheels shed their tires a hundred miles from any repair shop was a serious proposition, and freighters were not slow to select the article that was proven to be the best, and for years their wagons had the preference. Beresheim and Weis secured the exclusive agency for that wagon for this point and extending to all points from Nebraska to Sioux, inclusive, and reaped a rich profit.”

Beresheim eventually sold out his mercantile interests and was later appointed receiver for the hardware firm of E.J. Hurford. Pending the termination of the receivership, the Pacific National Bank had been established. After closing up the receivership, Beresheim became associated with the bank.

The banking house of Baldwin & Dodge had been established in 1856 by John T. Baldwin and Grenville M. Dodge. When the banking laws were established in 1870, this banking house became the Council Bluffs Savings Bank, and the Pacific National Bank became part of it. N.P. Dodge was the first president and served until 1902, when John Beresheim was appointed to the post and served until his death in 1909. Beresheim was elected state representative from Pottawattamie county and served in the 13th and 14th Iowa General Assemblies.

August Beresheim was born in 1864. He attended schools in Council Bluffs and went to work at the bank at an early age. His obituary states: “Mr. Beresheim has spent practically his entire business life within the four walls of the Council Bluffs Savings Bank. Nearly forty years ago he started working in the collection department there, and worked his way from one department to another until he finally became cashier, and succeeded his father, the late John Beresheim, as president upon his death.”

August Beresheim, besides being active in local business affairs, was a member of the Elks, the Eagles, the Chamber of Commerce and the boat club, and continued as president of the bank until his death in 1916. He married next-door neighbor Clara Teal, daughter of Stebbins and Theda Teal, in 1890. They had one daughter, Theda. Their house was built next door to the Dodge House in 1899 and stayed in the family until the 1950s when Theda sold it and moved to California. She died in San Diego in 1967 and is buried with her parents in Fairview Cemetery.

The house served as a nursing home for a number of years, and as a dormitory for Iowa Western Community College students. It was restored to its original condition in the late 20th century. Currently owned by the city of Council Bluffs, the house now serves as the orientation center for the Historic General Dodge House and includes a gift shop as well as exhibits in upstairs rooms.

Notable features of the Colonial Revival style house are the Dutch gambrel roof on the front dormer, round posts on a full-length, wrap-around front porch, sidelights at the entrance, decorative details in the lintels above the windows, and sawn wood brackets under the eaves. On the south side are bowed windows on the main floor, decorative shingles – fish scale and blunt end –and a viewing platform (or widows walk) with a wooden railing on the roof.

The Beresheim House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976 and is open to the general public as part of the Dodge House museum.

– Preserve Council Bluffs acknowledges the following sources of information for this series: National Register of Historic Places nominations, the reference department of the Council Bluffs Public Library, the auditor's office of the Pottawattamie County courthouse, Council Bluffs Community Development Department, homeowners, family members and – for this story- archives and staff of the Historic General Dodge House, and R.B. Graeme. Mary Lou McGinn can be reached by email at mlmcginn@cox.net.

GNA Meeting Minutes: 11/16/16 (Held at Our Saviors Lutheran Social Hall)

Attendees: Roland, Cathy, Cory, Steve, Chris, Adrienne, Tom, Celeste, Morgan and Kelsey.

Our first guest speaker was Shannon Meister, Educational Coordinator with the Recycling Center – CB, located at 4441 Gifford Road south of the JC Penney shopping center. *This was a very helpful presentation.* Some salient points made by her regarding our recycling efforts:

- > Appliances and tires may be picked up by calling 712.256.2288 at no charge to the resident.
- > Curbside service is available only to single family and duplex residents. (No apartment buildings.)
- > The most common mistake households make is trying to recycle plastic shopping bags. Since plastic and metal loads must be hand-picked, these bags slow down the sorting process. A recent practice by the recycling center is to “tag” loads containing grocery bags and leave them for the owners to dispose of appropriately.
- > Construction materials, such as shingles, metals, woods, ARE recyclable. In fact, these are ground up and used to fill potholes in the city.
- > Residents may pick up mulch at the Recycling Center. It is free and made from recycled materials.

Any questions may be directed to their website: **cbrecycle.com**. The Holiday site is up and running to assist us in appropriately disposing of our Holiday refuse. Shannon may be reached at 712.328.4985. If you have any questions, you may also refer to your “Council Bluffs Recycling and Solid Waste Services Guide” you receive every year.

Our second guests were Kelsey Johnson and Morgan Wade from the 712 Initiative (formed by combining Bluffs Downtown, Pottawattamie County Development Corps, and Live Well Council Bluffs.) This organization is still in the infant stages, finalizing their realms and responsibilities. They will soon have their website up and running. 712 Initiative has set a goal of hosting 100 Block Parties by September, 2017. These are a way for neighbors to come together to socialize and generate and implement plans to grow their various associations. This concept was generated during the “Let’s Talk about CB” conversations held in 2015. **Our own Gibraltar Neighborhood Association will host one of the first block parties on December 10th with “Under the Mistletoe” gathering at Steve and Chris Gorman’s home.**

Morgan asked those present to complete the 712 Initiative Survey by ranking our top 8 priorities for our association. He will use the results for future planning for workshops or other events.

We thank both organizations for taking the time to educate us about their areas of responsibility. Both sessions were very informative.

The GNA Meeting ensued during which Cory reported that we had earned \$614 with our Quarter Auction. The overall feeling of the group was that this was a complete success. The American Legion was a great venue due to their overwhelming generosity in letting us take over for the evening. Great auction items; great camaraderie; lots of fun. Stay tuned for next year’s Quarter Auction.

Deacon Celeste of Our Savior Lutheran reported that due to the generosity of a parishioner who recently passed away, the church and the GNA will have some funding for joint projects. We are grateful for such devotion!

One last item of note: Jeff Ketcham will step down as our Vice-President due to other demands. We thank Jeff for his stellar service and wish him the best as he pursues his dreams and follows his bliss!

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Hill, Secretary

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“Heaven and Nature Abound”

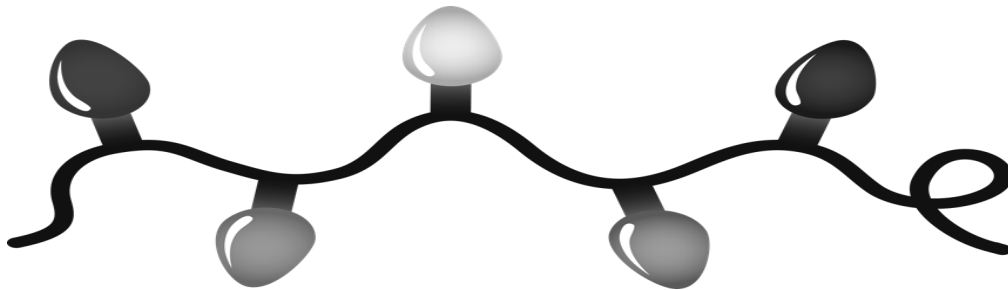
Christmas 2016 at The Historic General Dodge House

*Don't miss the beautiful Victorian Christmas season
at the Dodge House.*

Regular hours of operation are the same as listed below, except they close at 2:00 pm on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. Over 20 unique trees await your arrival and several special events are held during this special season.



Regular hours of operation are: Tuesday – Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 1-5pm. The Historic General Dodge House follows the Council Bluffs School District for school closings in the event of bad weather. It is always a good idea to call ahead to make sure they are open.



Adult Board Game Night || 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm

Play new & classic board and card games at the Council Bluffs Public Library.

This group meets the *first and third Tuesday of each month*, and it is free to attend.

You are welcome to bring your favorite games or just stop in to join a game.



Wrap it UP! at the UP Museum

December 10th & 17th | 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM | Union Pacific Railroad Museum

Volunteers will be ready at the museum to wrap your holiday gifts for a goodwill donation on Saturday December 10 and 17 from 11 am-1 pm. For More Information:

Contact Union Pacific Railroad Museum | (712) 329-8307

THANK YOU to our hard-working
GNA newsletter delivery & distribution team:

Chris and Steve Gorman
Tom Emmett and Nate Brown

Without you, our Newsletter would not be possible!!!!



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books for you to borrow for
as long as you wish...
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located in the green space at
the corner of Story Street
and 4th Street.



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. We are currently reading "**A Gentleman in Moscow**" by **Amor Towles**. We've added some new members, and we hope you'll consider making this part of your neighborhood involvement! For more info, contact Patti Hannan at 712-323-8600. We'd love to see you at our next "wine club" (heehee) meeting! ■



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Quarter Auction Recap 11/11/16

Everyone that attended GNA's first annual Quarter Auction had an incredible time chatting, drinking, eating, bidding and WINNING some fantastic items! The American Legion Hall was a great venue, with good food and really inexpensive drinks! MANY, MANY thank yous go out to our hard-working events team for putting in the long hours it took to pull this off. YOU ALL ROCK!!!! **More photos are posted on the Gibraltar Website,** so be sure to check those out! www.GibraltarNA.org.



ATTENTION: BUSINESS OWNERS, ARTISTS, ETC.

If you own a business, provide a service, have an event or sell a product, would you like to get the word out to **OVER 200 HOUSEHOLDS** in the Gibraltar Neighborhood?

If so, consider an affordable ad in the Rock Talk newsletter!

Ad Space Sizes available: 1/4 sheet or 1/2 sheet

1/4 sheet one-time insertion: **\$10** — OR — 1/4 sheet “6-pack” (whole year): **\$50**

1/2 sheet one-time insertion: **\$15** — OR — 1/2 sheet “6-pack” (whole year): **\$75**

We'll throw in the ad setup for free!! Contact Cory at coryp241@yahoo.com for more info!



THANK YOU to these folks who have joined the GNA for 2016!

Dave & Amy Adams

Joe & Kim Atkinson

Darwin & Christie Baker

Connie Bartel

Mark & Jeanie Beckman

Nate Brown & Tom Emmett

Buck & Teri Christensen

Dick & Ardeth Christie

Matt & Abby Colburn

Harold Compton

Tim and Shari Cortney

Jason & Brook Craig

Bud & Susie Dew

John & Rita Doidge

William & Merna Dobbs

Justin Edmonds

Kitty Eisenauer

Tim & Brenda Elliott

Dennis Fellhauer & Brian Wedemeier

Fred & Sharon Fritz

Teresa Gerjevic

Dave & Patty Gillespie

Jim & Joyce Gorman

Steve & Chris Gorman

Bill & Lois Grove

Merlin & Peggy Hale

Sean & Cindy Hallett

Rich & Patti Hannan

Gordon Hitchcock

Barney & Brenda Johnson

Jeff Ketcham & Kat Dunham

Jim Kieffer & Gary Lopez

Patricia LaBounty

Steve & Marge Leaders

Justin Lightner

Loess Hills Floral (Rhonda B.)

Roland Lynch

Kent & Mary Madison

Anne Massoud & Sara Perkins

Liz Matis

Adrienne McElderry

Kyle McGinn & Paige Hutchinson

Clay & Dana Miller

Terry & Nancy Mulvania

Terri Munson

Patricia Murphy

Cory Peters

Gary & Jeanie Richardson

Tony Swanson & Jamie Roggins

Scott & Michele Ryan

Jeff & Karen Tucker

Ann Walters & Cathy Hill

Patrice Watson

Carol Wood

Pavielle Wuerfele

Bob Yanders & Pam Bogardus

Your ongoing support of the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association allows us to undertake betterment projects like our identification banners and repair initiatives, host social gatherings like our Kirn Park picnic and Brunch & Banter events, sponsor improvement events like cleanup days, and represent our neighborhood at community events such as workshops and having a Gibraltar float in the Celebrate Council Bluffs Parade! ***It would not be possible without YOU!***

Those listed were known to have paid dues at the time of publishing. If you notice an error, please contact Tom Emmett.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT in 2016! Please remember to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP in 2017!!

**Your 2016
GNA Contacts:**

Cory Peters, President
712-329-8526

Jeff Ketcham, Vice President
712-310-2031

Tom Emmett, Treasurer
402-346-6734

Cathy B. Hill, Secretary
402-980-8177

Steve Gorman, Board Member
712-256-8890

Gordon Hitchcock, Newsletter
402-505-2552

Ann Walters, Events Chair
402-980-8149

*Newsletter copies furnished
courtesy of*

The **712** Initiative

THANK YOU!

Visit Gibraltar online: www.GibraltarNA.org

KEEP INFORMED!!

Share news, updates, inquiries, refer business people or services, get the latest GNA news and much more! It's FREE and it's open to folks within the GNA boundaries!! Register TODAY for GNA's "Nextdoor" social website: www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com.



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

Please tell us what's important to you in connecting with your neighbors:

- Quarterly social events Fundraisers Business meetings
 Other _____

Please tell us what issues are important to you:

- Getting to know my neighbors Preserving our brick streets
 Better lighting in our Neighborhood More social events
 Other _____