



# ROCK•TALK

the newsletter of

The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

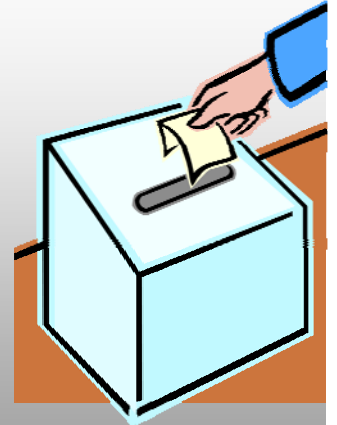
## JANUARY MEETING: TIME TO VOTE!!

***It's the GNA ELECTION MEETING!!***

**WHERE:** Our Savior's Lutheran Church, *Corner of Bluff Street and Story Street*

**WHEN:** **Wednesday, Jan. 13, 6:00 p.m.**

Please plan to attend the January 2016 GNA meeting, when we'll hold the bi-annual GNA elections! All paid association members are eligible to run for an office and/or cast a vote. Current board members have all served their term in office, so if you have an urge to run for one of the positions, *please put your hat in the ring!!* Even if you DON'T want to hold a board position, we still need your input, nominations and vote for the 2016 through 2018 Gibraltar Board.



Now is your chance to make a difference and let your voice be heard! **Please put this meeting on your calendar and attend.** *Even if you are not a paid association member, please come and voice your concerns, ask questions, submit suggestions on issues you think need to be addressed, etc. See you then!*

ATTEND THE GIBRALTAR FUNDRAISER ON DECEMBER 18! SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS!

**FOR YOUR 2016 CALENDAR:** ***Please add these 2016 meeting dates to your calendar & plan to attend!***

Wed. January 13, 6:00 p.m // SATURDAY, March 19, 10:00 a.m. // Wed. May 18, 6:00 p.m. //

Wed. July 20, 6:00 p.m. // Wed. September 21, 6:00 p.m. // Wed. November 16, 6:00 p.m.

## COME TO THE JAN. 2016 MEETING & BUY A PIECE OF HISTORY!

We'll have a couple of fun "Council Bluffs Artifacts" *available for sale* at the January GNA meeting! Add one of these COOL pieces of C.B. history to your collection, while at the same time helping out the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association! Come prepared to make a bid— maybe you'll be the winner and take home one of these beauties! ***Come participate in the fun!***



Kick your holidays into high gear with some  
*Seasonal Sparkle!*



The Historic Gibraltar Neighborhood Association is hosting a  
**HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER at the Dodge House!**

**WHEN:** Friday, December 18, 2015 • 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Historic Dodge House • 605 3rd Street, Co. Bluffs

Enjoy a hot mulled cider and an array of delicious hors d'oeuvres while listening to cheerful holiday music, then take a leisurely after-hours tour of the Dodge House. You'll bask in the glow of festively-decorated trees from local artists on all floors, along with lovely floral arrangements and beautiful holiday décor.

**ADMISSION:** \$25 per person / \$40 per couple

*Reservations & Payment required in advance.* R.S.V.P. by December 10th to Ann Walters at (402) 980-8149. Checks can be mailed to Ann Walters, 220 - 5th Ave., Council Bluffs, IA 51503.

Benefiting Gibraltar area neighborhood improvement projects. Adults only please for this special event.

## FROM PRESIDENT PETERS

Greetings fellow GNA residents!

We sure dodged a bullet the third week of November, when cities north and east of us got a substantial snowfall! I'm hopeful we'll continue to see a mild winter, but I know there WILL be hefty snow at some point in our futures! So, just a friendly reminder that sidewalks need to be clear and safe for pedestrians and our mail carriers/delivery folks. Also, please be mindful of any elderly or disabled neighbors for whom shoveling is an issue. Open your heart and pitch in to help them, won't you please?



**The 4th Quarter Social and Fundraiser** at the Dodge House is coming up fast. If you haven't done so already, please either volunteer your time, purchase a ticket, or just make a donation to Gibraltar as a fundraising boost (your donation is tax deductible!) The GNA event committee has been working SO VERY HARD on all the details, and they're putting together an evening you are sure to enjoy. The Dodge House is resplendent this time of year with gorgeous trees and holiday décor, plus we'll have tasty appetizers and beverages for you to enjoy, along with music. It will be a feast for all your senses!! Please share the event info with your friends, too (share the flyer on page 2). See you there!

I am beyond excited to report that the **Gibraltar Banners** have been printed & received, and personally delivered to the C.B. City Operations department! I've been told that installation may start in December; we may even have these installed before the end of the year! I am so pleased that from start to finish this project was a group effort, including those who voiced an opinion on the banner design. This initiative WOULD NOT have been possible without the generous grant from the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation; their assistance provided the substantial funding we needed, along with a sizeable portion of our own treasury (hence the need for some fundraising). Big thanks also to Ann Walters for her considerable expertise and assistance with grant writing. I would also like to personally thank Greg Reeder, Director of Public Works in Council Bluffs. He was instrumental in working with Mid-American Energy to obtain approval for using their utility poles, and also facilitating the actual banner installation. With many hands working towards a common goal, we were able to achieve this much-anticipated improvement to our neighborhood's appearance, which will hopefully result in a boost in neighborhood pride and sense of community. I can't wait to see them installed!

January's meeting also happens to be our ELECTION meeting. The current board has fulfilled their two-year commitment, so that leaves the door open for any others who would like to get involved!! Whether you are interested in running for a GNA board position or not, please DO come to the meeting and voice your questions or concerns. If there are issues you think our association should be addressing, bring them along with your ideas on how to correct those issues! ***As a reminder, only paid association members have voting rights***, so this also seems like a good time to remind everyone that **GNA DUES ARE DUE** in January. Why not save yourself a stamp and come to the January meeting with your dues check!

As a friendly reminder, whether you are a Gibraltar Neighborhood homeowner or renter, paid GNA member or NOT, don't forget to join the neighborhood networking group at [www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com](http://www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com). This website is an *excellent* way for all residents to share news, post alerts, ask questions, pose ideas and get to know one another. **THIS IS ALSO our main method to communicate upcoming EVENTS! Stay informed by joining the site.** There is NO COST to join the group, there's no spam or advertisements, etc.— you just need to live in the Gibraltar boundaries.

Until next time, Cory Peters — GNA President

## WATCH FOR GNA BANNER INSTALLATION COMING SOON!

The printed Gibraltar banners were delivered to the City Works department in late November, and we've been told that if the weather holds, they may even be installed before the end of the year! This was such a collaborative effort, and BIG thanks go out to: Cory Peters for creating the artwork, all those neighbors who weighed in during the design process, Ann Walters for grant writing, the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation (PCCF) for the generous monetary grant, Greg Reeder and City of Council Bluffs Utility Crew for coordinating banner installation, and Mid-American Energy for the allowing us to install on their utility poles. Let us know what you think once they're installed!!

### Banner Design front and back looks like this:



### GNA President Cory Peters & Jerry Mathiasen, PCCF President/CEO, display new banners!



### Greg Reeder, Director of Public Works and GNA President Cory Peters



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 **“Under the Wide and Starry Sky”** by Nancy Horan. We've recently 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 meeting! ■

# Be a Gibraltar Neighborhood Champion!

Life is busy and it's easy to forget the benefits that our Gibraltar Neighborhood Association brings us. While much of our 2016 work will be highly visible (such as neighborhood banners and sidewalk concrete replacement), much of our Association's efforts are not immediately noticeable, such as working with city leaders on issues pertinent to our community, collaboration with other neighborhood groups to preserve our neighborhood's historic charm and quality of life, and building relationships among neighbors. Please remember the benefits of GNA as you consider the allocation of your charity dollars. **Here are some of the ways you can financially support your GNA:**



- **Pay Your Annual Dues:** If you have not paid your annual dues of \$25, please do at your earliest convenience. Thank you.
- **Gift a Membership:** Connect with a neighbor that is not a member of GNA by gifting them a membership. Your neighbor will receive a letter from GNA welcoming them and acknowledging your gift. This is a wonderful way to welcome a new neighbor to our neighborhood. *They win, you win and GNA wins.*
- **Become "A Rock":** (Effective February, 2016) Pick an amount. It might be \$10, \$15 or \$25 and make a monthly reoccurring gift. You will be able to do this via our website or via your Bank's Bill-Pay service. Every GNA Rock household will be acknowledged in our newsletter. (More to come on this!)
- **In-Kind Giving Counts Too:** If you buy some food for a GNA social, purchase some supplies or contribute items for a fundraiser, that counts too! Just turn in the receipt to a Board member or mail it to our PO Box to receive credit for your in-kind gift. (Please write your name on the receipt and what the purchase was for.)

**Remember, your giving to GNA is fully tax deductible as allowable by law.** Effective 2016, any GNA member who gives above and beyond their annual membership will receive a giving statement summarizing their giving for that year.

If you have any questions about how you can financially support GNA, please do not hesitate to contact our Treasurer, Tom Emmett.

## ATTENTION: BUSINESS OWNERS, ARTISTS, ETC.

Attn. Gibraltar Residents who 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](mailto:coryp241@yahoo.com) for more info!

## HOMES OF GIBRALTAR: 201 Third Street, by Mary Lou McGinn

It isn't often that an architect so loves the house he designed that he buys it from the builder and makes it his home for 22 years. Edward P. Schoentgen designed this home for Dr. Henry B. Jennings, his wife, Hattie, and their family in 1902. (The family had previously resided at 129 S. Fourth Street which was also the location of Dr. Jennings' office, according to the nomination of the Third/Bluff/Willow district to the National Register of Historic Places).



*The Jennings House at 201 Third St. – often called the “House of Doctors” – was also home to Dr. Arthur Brown, Dr. Francis Richardson and its architect, Edward P.*

Dr. Jennings came to Council Bluffs around 1892. He served as county coroner, then as city physician. By 1907 he had a successful practice as a physician and surgeon in an office on Pearl Street, and was on the executive committee of the Council Bluffs Commercial Club. The couple had four children. The Jennings sold the property in 1922 to its architect, Edward Schoentgen, and moved to a home on McPherson Avenue. Dr. Jennings died in 1929.



*The Jennings Family – 1900's.*

Edward Schoentgen, born in Council Bluffs in 1873, had several careers. He first trained as an architect at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and studied for two years in France. He began his career with a St. Louis firm, returning to Council Bluffs in 1899 where he established the firm of Cox & Schoentgen with Frederic Cox. He was the architectural member of the State Capitol Commission, appointed in 1902 by Governor Cummins to renovate and complete the State House in Des Moines.

He retired from active practice in 1910 to become vice-president of the Groneweg & Schoentgen Co., taking over his father's position. In the early 1900s it was the largest wholesale grocery business in western Iowa. He became the company's president in 1931. In the 1920s he was also vice-president of the Council Bluffs Savings Bank, and served as a member of the Iowa State Board of Education.

Edward P. and Mabel Pratt Schoentgen's son, John, was married to actor Henry Fonda's younger sister, Jane. Henry's children, Jane and Peter, spent a considerable amount of time in Council Bluffs during their early years. The Schoentgen's lived at 348 Woodland Drive.

Tallgrass Historians, authors of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, call the house an excellent example of the Neoclassical style of architecture, with its distinctive two-story rounded Classical porch, exaggerated scrolled pediments over the door and front first floor windows, modillion blocks at the eave overhang, cornice returns, and gabled/pedimented dormers. The garage on the north side was originally a portecochere. The summer porch on the south side, originally closed-in, is now an open porch.

Besides Dr. Jennings, two other doctors lived at 201 Third Street: Dr. Arthur Brown and Dr. Francis Richardson. The house was sometimes referred to as the “House of Doctors”.

*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 individual research. Feel free to contact Mary Lou McGinn.*

# ANTIBIOTICS AREN'T ALWAYS THE ANSWER

(Courtesy: US Center for Disease Control)

Antibiotics do not fight infections caused by viruses like colds, flu, most sore throats, bronchitis, and many sinus and ear infections. Instead, symptom relief might be the best treatment option for viral infections.

Get smart about when antibiotics are needed—to fight bacterial infections. When you use antibiotics appropriately, you do the best for your health, your family's health, and the health of those around you.

Taking antibiotics for viral infections, such as colds, flu, most sore throats, bronchitis, and many sinus or ear infections:

- Will **not** cure the infection
- Will **not** keep other people from getting sick
- Will **not** help you or your child feel better
- May cause unnecessary and harmful side effects
- May contribute to antibiotic resistance, which is when bacteria are able to resist the effects of an antibiotic and continue to cause harm



Rest, fluids, and over-the-counter products may be your or your child's best treatment option against viral infections. Remember—there are potential risks when taking any prescription drug. Unneeded antibiotics may lead to harmful side effects and future antibiotic-resistant infections.

## What to Do

Just because your healthcare professional doesn't give you an antibiotic doesn't mean you aren't sick. Talk with your healthcare professional about the best treatment for your or your child's illness.

To feel better when you or your child has a viral infection:

- Ask your healthcare professional about over-the-counter treatment options that may help reduce symptoms.
- Drink more fluids.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Use a cool-mist vaporizer or saline nasal spray to relieve congestion.
- Soothe your throat with crushed ice, sore throat spray, or lozenges. (Don't give lozenges to young children.)
- If you are diagnosed with the flu, there are flu antiviral drugs that can be used to treat flu illness. They are prescription drugs.

## What Not to Do

- Do **not** demand antibiotics when your healthcare professional says they are not needed.
- Do **not** take an antibiotic for a viral infection.
- **not** take antibiotics prescribed for someone else. The antibiotic may not be right for your illness. Taking the wrong medicine may delay correct treatment and allow bacteria to grow.

If your healthcare professional prescribes an antibiotic for a bacterial infection:

- Do **not** skip doses.
- Do **not** stop taking the antibiotics early unless your healthcare professional tells you to do so.
- Do **not** save any of the antibiotics for the next time you or your child gets sick.

## HOUSE PREP FOR WINTER!

At the GNA November general meeting, a Midwest weather event happened: when we walked in it was raining and as we walked out it was snowing. Reality check!! In the same way that weather can surprise us, so can a home that's unprepared for winter. Just to make sure you haven't forgotten anything, please consider the following critical winterizing necessities:



- Unhook hoses from outdoor hydrants.
- Add window plastic to drafty windows. It's easier now than when it's cold.
- Change the direction on ceiling fans to maximize comfort and savings.
- Put away patio furniture before it's covered in snow and ice.
- If your air conditioner is under a gutter or other drip zone, cover it.
- If you don't use your fireplace, you can use a chimney balloon to prevent losing heat.
- Have your furnace serviced and clean the humidifier filter. (Remember to change your air filter too.)
- If you have switches or outlets that draft air, purchase insulators.
- Purchase salt or sand to deal with ice and prevent falls.
- Get your snow shovel ready!

Please remember to check on your elderly neighbors especially in the event of prolonged inclement weather or

### recipe: QUICK SALSA

It does not matter what season it is. Be it hot or cold, it's always the season for good salsa. Unfortunately, many store bought salsas are either too salty or too hot. How about a salsa with good flavor, that's easy to make, can be easily adjusted according to taste, to be enjoyed by all? Well, here you go:

- 1 can of diced (or crushed, if preferred) tomatoes
- 1 can chopped mild green chilies
- 1 bunch of green onions, sliced, tops too
- 1/2 tsp sugar
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp fresh lime juice, up to 1 T, depending on taste
- 1 to 2 T chopped fresh cilantro, depending on taste
- (Optional, for more spice, 1/4 tsp crushed red pepper)

Mash tomatoes with a fork or potato masher to desired consistency. Next add other ingredients, according to taste. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving. Enjoy!



# GNA General Meeting Minutes, November 11, 2015

Attendees: Roland, Chris, Kat, Jeff, Doug, Tom, Cory, Gordon, Cathy  
Meeting began at 6:10 p.m.

## **Agenda Items:**

1. Cory reported on her meeting with Greg Reeder, C.B. Director of Public Works, about the timeline for our banners to be installed. He is hoping that work will begin in early December. They were photographed together for inclusion in the newsletter.

2. Jeff reported on our Little Free Library. He is seeing good usage with clear evidence of the "Take a book, leave a book" concept. He feels that the library is reaching an underserved population in our neighborhood. We appreciate Jeff's ongoing stewardship of this project.

3. Cathy updated the group on the progress of preparations for our Dodge House fundraiser. The food/beverage side is well in hand; however, there is still a need for people to **work** at the event – setting up, serving/cleaning up during the event, and cleanup after the event. Anyone who can help, please call Ann Walters at 402.980.8177.

4. Cory broached the subject of upcoming elections for two offices, president and vice-president. Current Vice President, Jeff Ketcham, has chosen not to continue in his role. Those interested in running for Vice President need to attend the January meeting. Cory is willing to continue in the role of President with one stipulation: she is divested of the additional responsibility of publishing the association's newsletter. The idea was proposed that a newsletter committee be formed. When the association first formed, there was a committee for our newsletter, and it was felt that perhaps we should return to that approach. Cory is going to consult with a GNA member who may be able to take over the layout of the letter. No specific action was taken but discussion will continue.

5. Update on replacement of bricks in GNA: We inquired to the City re: no evidence of brick repair/replacement for 2015. We were told the plan to spend \$10,000 a year on bricks was still in effect and that the city was still planning on doing some brick work this year. Cory will continue monitor this.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Hill, Secretary of GNA

THANK YOU to these neighbors who have already paid their 2016 GNA dues!

- **Kitty Eisenauer**
- **Joe & Kim Atkinson**
- **Ardith & Dick Christie**
- **Mark & Jeanie Beckman**
- **Cory Peters**
- **Ann Walters & Cathy Hill**
- **Steve & Chris Gorman**
- **Tom Emmet & Nate Brown**
- **Jeff Ketcham & Kat Dunham**
- **Terry & Nancy Mulvania**

Through your ongoing support we are able to accomplish great things. THANK YOU!



The graphic features a large black letter 'I' followed by a large red heart, and the text 'my neighbor.' in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font below them.

***THANK YOU*** to our GNA newsletter  
*delivery & distribution team:*

*Chris and Steve Gorman  
Tom Emmett and Nate Brown.*

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

## Your 2015 GNA Board:

Cory Peters, President and  
Newsletter Editor  
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

## Preserve the Wonderful History of C.B.!

Your Gibraltar Neighborhood is one of the *largest historical neighborhoods* in the city of Council Bluffs. If you appreciate that historical aspect, then you should know that the **Historical Society of Pottawattamie County** is a group of people with a common goal as stated in their Mission: "to preserve the past for current and future generations." The Historical Society has been instrumental in saving many of the historical sites in our county, and they are looking for new members who also seek to preserve our community's history. If you would like more information or might be interested in becoming a member, visit: [www.thehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.thehistoricalsociety.org)

**Preserve Council Bluffs** has a similar mission: "to preserve and restore historic sites in the city of Council Bluffs." This non-profit organization is active in preserving the history and culture in our community, and are responsible for saving the amazing Bregant House. They also organize and host amazing fund-raising dinners in historic homes, trolley tours, and historic homes/sites walking tours. To learn more about the great things that Preserve C.B. is involved in, or to become a member visit their website at: [www.preservecouncilbluffs.org](http://www.preservecouncilbluffs.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 only open to folks within the GNA boundaries!!

Register TODAY for GNA's "Nextdoor" social website: [www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com](http://www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com).

**Visit Gibraltar online:** [www.GibraltarNA.org](http://www.GibraltarNA.org)

**Newsletter copies furnished  
courtesy of Habitat for Humanity  
of Council Bluffs. THANK YOU!**



## 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