



ROCK•TALK

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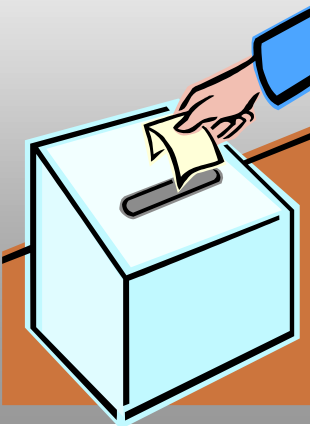
The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

ELECTION RESULTS

Your 2016-2017 Gibraltar Neighborhood Association Board is Unchanged

The January business meeting for the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association was held on Wednesday, January 13. This was also the bi-yearly ELECTION meeting. While we would have preferred a larger attendance of association members (there were only six non-board members in attendance), the vote was unanimous in

support of retaining the 2014-2015 board, and the board graciously agreed to serve a second term. Your 2016-2017 board remains: Cory Peters, President; Jeff Ketcham, Vice President; Tom Emmett, Treasurer; Cathy Hill, Secretary; and Steve Gorman, general board member.



Now it's time for neighborhood residents to step up to the plate!! **Please consider playing a more involved role in the betterment of your neighborhood!!** *Even if you are not a paid association member, we need residents to get involved! Attend meetings, serve on a committee, host a social event... any one of these will serve a much-needed role in making Gibraltar a great place to live! Thank you!*

2016 MEETINGS: Opportunities for learning and fellowship!

Your Gibraltar event committee is working hard to bring new education and excitement to our bi-monthly general meetings! From interesting neighborhood panels to speakers on safety, home improvement, travel and other timely topics, they are working hard to put together an events calendar that will be interesting and beneficial to all. We'll spend a short amount of time conducting business, and get to the speaker portion as quickly as possible!

PLEASE enter these dates on your phone, your work calendar, your fridge calendar... wherever it is that you keep track of the events and obligations in your life. If you do not take a bit of time to get involved, we will not be able to move forward with future improvement projects. Surely you can find a way to fit a bit of volunteer time into your busy life once in a while! THANKS!

2016 GENERAL MEETINGS

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

If you are able, please bring a non-perishable food item to contribute to their food pantry, or a contribution for the Pet Food pantry!! ALL neighborhood residents (owners and renters) are encouraged to attend!

SATURDAY, March 19, 10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY, May 18, 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, July 20, 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, Sept. 21, 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, Nov. 16, 6:00 p.m.



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 “**The Villa in Italy**” by **Elizabeth Edmondson**. 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! ■

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

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

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

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

(If you haven’t yet paid your 2016 dues,
please submit them a.s.a.p. to the address
shown on the form on the last page.)

- Joe & Kim Atkinson
- Mark & Jeanie Beckman
- Joan Borrege
- Mike & Jane Burgett
- Dick & Ardeth Christie
- Dave & Karen Cole
- Patricia & Harold Cox Sr.
- William & Merna Dobbs
- John & Rita Doidge
- Kitty Eisenauer
- Tom Emmet & Nate Brown
- Teresa Gerjevic
- Bill & Lois Grove
- 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
- Jim Keiffer & Gary Lopez
- Marge & Steve Leaders

- Kent & Mary Madison
- Liz Matis
- Adrienne McElderry
- Kyle McGinn & Paige Hutchison
- Terry & Nancy Mulvania
- Anne Massoud &
Sara PerkinsTerri Munson
- Cory Peters
- Tony Swanson & Jamie Robins
- Ann Walters & Cathy Hill
- Patrice Watson
- Carol Wood

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

(Those listed were known to have paid his, her, or their dues at the time of publishing. If you notice an error please check with Gordon Hitchcock or Tom Emmett. Thanks)

FROM PRESIDENT PETERS

Greetings fellow GNA residents!

What an amazing year we had in 2015 — it's been a proud revelation to look back on all the wonderful things our neighborhood accomplished! Please take the time to read the article on pages 4-5; I think you'll be equally pleased. *Let's make 2016 even better!*



The December Social/Fundraiser at the Dodge House was truly a group effort, and I can't give enough thanks to Ann Walters and the event committee who pulled it off with such a short timeframe in such spectacular fashion. We had over 50 people attend the party, and everyone raved about how festive and wonderful it was! To all those who donated food and beverages to the event, THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU for your generosity! To all those who WORKED on or at the event, THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU for your tireless efforts! And a very special thanks to GNA treasurer Tom Emmett. He and his friend Carol serenaded attendees with live cello music that was absolutely gorgeous! ***After expenses, our treasury grew by over \$600 from this event.*** This money will go towards important projects & events in the coming year—none of which would be possible without your volunteering and support!!

I hope everyone has been enjoying the new **Gibraltar Pole Banners** that were installed in December!! Feedback has been extremely positive, and I was beyond happy that the City was able to get them installed so promptly. It still makes me smile every time I drive by one!

We don't yet have the **First Quarter GNA Social Event** lined up, so PLEASE watch the NextDoor.com site for future information on time/place/details. If you haven't signed up on to the free NextDoor site, please DO as this is our only method of communicating digitally with neighborhood residents!! Go to the website at www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com to sign up (contact me personally if you have problems — coryp241@yahoo.com).

PLEASE JOIN THE ASSOCIATION for 2016! If you aren't currently a Gibraltar Neighborhood Association member, **please considering joining!** Your contribution of \$25 is tax deductible (we are a registered non-profit organization), and your yearly dues go towards a variety of initiatives! For 2016, we'll be undertaking a sidewalk repair project, and **association members will have first access to available funding!** More importantly, having a larger "member" base provides a more compelling case for grant applications and the like. Dues are collected in January, so please submit them a.s.a.p. (see the form and mailing address on pg. 12).

In closing, I hope to see more of you at meetings and events in 2016. ***Your neighbors are a great group of people!*** If you'll take a bit of time to get to know them, we can make Gibraltar a vibrant, engaged community. Stay warm, and be careful shoveling those sidewalks!



Until next time,

Cory Peters
GNA President



2015 GNA ACCOMPLISHMENTS: YEAR IN REVIEW

March 20, 2015 – Neighborhood Cleanup Day. Our local Habitat for Humanity organization sponsored a citywide cleanup day, making dumpsters available for citizens' use. We had over a half-dozen neighborhood volunteers who personally helped their neighbors by visiting homes and hauling away over five pickup truck loads of "stuff." Much of the material was able to be donated to Habitat for their re-sale fundraising store, while other items went into recycle bins and lastly, the dumpster.



March 20, 2015 – Bayliss Park Christmas Lights campaign. GNA Neighbors voted to donate \$300 from our Association's treasury to help fund the City's purchase of new holiday decorations for Bayliss Park.

May 16, 2015 – Heirloom Plant Sale in conjunction with the Historic Dodge House. Paulette Brandt, Kathie Brandt & Bud Dew dug up and contributed perennial plants from *their own gardens* for re-selling to shoppers attending the annual Dodge House plant sale, to help raise additional funds in support of the Historic General Dodge House.

May 16, 2015 – Celebrate Council Bluffs Parade. The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association once again had an entry in the parade, with approximately 15 neighborhood adults and children walking the parade route wearing matching neighborhood T-shirts and handing out candy. [In 2014, GNA built an actual float entry, and we were designated (along with a small handful of other active neighborhood associations) as the parade's "grand marshals!"]



October, 2015 – Little Free Library installation. The GNA partnered with a Co. Bluffs Rotary Club to help build and install a new "Little Free Library" in our neighborhood. We also volunteered time to paint and decorate an additional library that was installed elsewhere. Multiple people worked together: the Rotary Club built the box, the GNA painted/decorated the box and built a new roof, and we partnered with Our Savior's Lutheran Church in our neighborhood to use a patch of green space near their Food Pantry building for the library installation (a GNA resident did the installation). The location has been hugely successful, with boxes of adult and children's books being donated, read and rotated frequently.



2015 GNA YEAR IN REVIEW, continued

December, 2015 – Holiday Homes Tour. This annual fundraising event in support of **Preserve Council Bluffs** once again included many GNA volunteers who took tickets and staffed homes. More amazingly, three of the five historic homes participating on the tour were Gibraltar homes!

Quarterly in 2015 – Social Events. We hosted four social events this year, all designed to help neighbors get to know each other better. Each event was well attended, averaging approximately 20 to 50 attendees, ranging from small children to seniors.

1st quarter – Winter get-together potluck at Bud Dew's house. 38 attendees.

2nd quarter – Summer get-together potluck at Pat Murphy's house. 20 attendees.

3rd quarter – Fall Family picnic at Kirn Park. The GNA paid for and provided sloppy joes, buns, all the fixin's, and lemonade/iced tea. Residents brought side dishes to share. 44 attendees.



4th quarter – Holiday fundraiser event at the Dodge House. More than a dozen residents made appetizers and beverages, and/or hosted at the party. Admission was charged to tour the museum (decorated magnificently for the holidays) while enjoying edibles and drinks. GNA's Tom Emmett and his friend performed on site, playing holiday carols on their cellos. Over 50 paid attendees.

Wreath & Poinsettia fundraiser – GNA sold wreaths & poinsettias to raise money.

Neighborhood Identification Banners project

This was our largest undertaking of the year. The project's scope involved multiple parties over the course of many months. Several rounds of banner designs were voted on by Gibraltar residents via the NextDoor.com website, with the final selection being a two-sided design. The GNA worked with the City of C.B. and with Mid-American Energy (MAE) to develop the plan for installation, with Gibraltar providing the banner location map. MAE conducted site inspections to determine location viability; rejected locations were then re-mapped, re-submitted, re-inspected and approved. We submitted bid proposals to multiple banner vendors, then wrote and submitted a grant application to charitable organization Pottawattamie County Community Foundation to secure 80% of the funds needed to cover the expense, with the GNA funding the other 20% out of our treasury. When the grant was approved in October, we ordered printed banners and installation hardware, which were delivered at the end of November. The City took possession of the materials and installed the banners in early December!



GNA General Meeting Minutes, January 13, 2016

Attendees: Ann Walters Sr., Ann Walters Jr., Cathy Hill, Tom Emmett, Patti Hannan, Mary Madison, Jeff Ketcham, Cory Peters, Adrienne McElderry.
Meeting called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Cory.

Agenda:

1) Elections for GNA Board: Current Board members whose terms are up (President – Cory Peters, Vice President – Jeff Ketcham and Secretary – Cathy Hill) expressed their willingness to continue in their current positions. Therefore, a movement was made to reinstate them for another term. Motion was seconded and all present voted “aye.”

2. **Year in Review:** Cory enumerated the things that GNA accomplished over the past year. They are:

> Neighborhood Clean Up in March with Habitat for Humanity

> Participation in the Celebrate CB Parade

> Little Free Library was built and installed on Our Savior’s church property. Jeff Ketcham regularly checks it and circulates books in & out. He reports that the library is being used quite regularly. This is an excellent example of how collaborative efforts (Rotary, GNA, Our Savior, Habitat for Humanity and Menard’s) can result in positive outcomes!

3. Our GNA Banners were installed in December and look great. People are expressing a sense of pride and connectivity now that they are up. We are thankful to the city work crew for installing the banners in such a timely manner.

4. Quarterly socials were well-attended & successful.

5. Update on Sidewalk Repairs: This will be our largest undertaking for the 2016 (and beyond!) year. We have many stretches of sidewalk that are in disrepair. With increased traffic due to events, exercisers and dog walkers, it is imperative that our sidewalks are safe for all. The Board will seek multiple grants to help finance this important undertaking. NOTE: With so many walks to be repaired, degree of damage and owner’s paid membership will dictate repair schedules.

6. Tom Emmet has been “picking” for CB memorabilia online and is offering these items to anyone who dabbles in things of yore. All moneys will go into the GNA coffers.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hill, Secretary of GNA



HOMES OF GIBRALTAR:

304 Willow Avenue – Dr. Charles Woodbury *by Mary Lou McGinn*

The Woodbury House was built in 1906 for Dr. Charles Woodbury and his wife, Nellie. Barbara Heck remembers the home of her grandparents: “In the early 1930s, the porch on the east side of the house was converted to a three-season sun porch. On the west side of the house, where the deck is now, was a small formal garden. The house was always brown shingles with white trim. Recent owners painted it blue and erected the fence. The Woodburys had four children. Three boys died in infancy. One daughter, Dorothy, was their only surviving child.”

The National Register nomination for the district lists the Colonial Revival house as “contributing, with very good integrity” and mentions, specifically, the broken pediment window detail on the second floor, a hipped roof with an inset hipped dormer, the double set of triple-round posts on the porch piers, side lights and a transom on the front door, and the Chicago –type windows with fanlights.

The Omaha World Herald was founded by Gilbert Hitchcock in 1885. Decades later, a tribute to Dr. Woodbury told his story:

“The year this newspaper was born a young Council Bluffs man was completing his dental education in the East. In the ensuing 65 years, Dr. Charles E. Woodbury made important scientific contributions hailed by the entire profession, stimulated Midwestern dentistry to high competency and taught, practiced and wrote himself into the Dental Hall of Fame. His office remained in Council Bluffs from the time he hooked up his first drill until he retired in 1950.

Dr. Woodbury taught in the Creighton School of Dentistry for 42 years, designed more than one hundred dental instruments, and was a pioneer in the enduring gold foil technique of filling teeth.

His father, Dr. Edmond Israel Woodbury, arrived in Council Bluffs on July 1, 1859. He then was the only dentist west to Denver and north to the North Pole.

The elder Dr. Woodbury made his own gas to anesthetize patients. It was the original laughing gas and had about the same effect as bonded whisky. Once a burly drayman got so happy he wrecked the dentist’s office before staggering out.

Young Dr. Woodbury joined his father in practice when he was 21. The two worked in a one-story building at Pearl Street and First Avenue, site of the present Chieftain Hotel.

The first gold crown in Iowa was made in the office by a Chicago surgeon. While the younger Dr. Woodbury did not originate the technique, his ardent teaching of the gold foil method spread its usage throughout the country. He lectured and conducted clinics in nearly every state. . . .His study clubs spread throughout the country. He helped organize the American College of Dentists.

In 1927 a testimonial dinner was held in Omaha. Five hundred dentists throughout the country attended. A leader in the profession flatly called the Council Bluffs man the ‘greatest man in dentistry today’.

Some years later, bronze portraits of 10 dentists were dedicated in the Dental Hall of Fame at the University of Southern California School of Dentistry. Three of the 10 had practiced in the Omaha area – Dr. Woodbury was one of the three.



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](#).

THE PERFECT EXTENDED WEEKEND GETAWAY, by Tom Emmett

Most of us living in the Historic Gibraltar Neighborhood live here, in part, because we love historic homes. It takes a special person to appreciate the construction, detail and preservation of the homes we've been entrusted to. That's why we might want to take advantage of a grouping of historic homes, just a day trip away, that are among the most significant on the North American continent.

Just south of St. Louis, Missouri--itself significant for its historic homes--is the little town of St. Genevieve. The town was founded in 1735 by French Canadian immigrants and is the first town established in Missouri. The oldest surviving structures known as "French Creole Colonial" constitute the largest concentration of such homes in North America dating from the third and fourth quarters of the 18th century. As you might imagine, many such homes existed in New Orleans, but most were destroyed in the fires of 1788 and 1791.

Unlike Anglo homes of the day, in which homes were built what we would call "log cabin style" with the wood frame laid horizontally, the distinctive quality

of these Creole houses are *poteaux en terre* (posts-in-the-ground) where the walls made of upright wooden posts. In addition, these posts do not support the floor of the home. The floor is supported by separate stone pillars. Set into dirt, the walls of such buildings were vulnerable to flood damage, termites and rot. This risk, however, could be mitigated by the abundance of white oak which has some resistance to these dangers.

There are other unique attributes of these early French Colonial homes that deserve mention. These homes enjoy extensive porches (where the family would essentially work in the summer) supported by slender wooden columns. These homes have steeply pitched, hipped roofs supported by the amazing Norman trusses. These enormous trusses, hand hewn, can be viewed in two of the six homes that can be toured. These six homes, all unique in themselves, testify to life in the 18th century Mississippi valley. Visitors will not only learn about the architecture, but about area history, daily life and even how the town fared during the famous New Madrid earthquake in 1812. *Continued on next page.*



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**

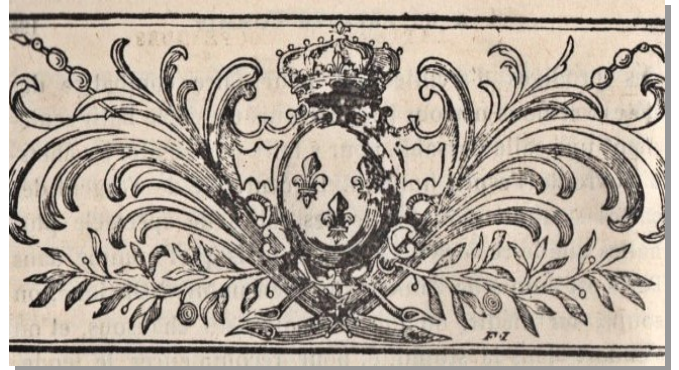
We'll throw in the ad setup for free!! Contact Cory at coryp241@yahoo.com for more info!

In total, there are less than 100 examples of urban and rural French colonial homes that survive in North America. Many of these homes have been lost in two ways. First, some have been modified again and again over the centuries and are hidden from view by virtue of their successive "improvements". From time to time these homes are discovered. The second, and, most regrettable way these homes are being lost is to indifference and neglect. Our nation's French Colonial homes are among the rarest and least appreciated of historic homes in our nation.

Should you plan a trip to St. Genevieve, four days would be recommended. Two for comfortable travel and two for seeing the town. There are a number of excellent Bed and Breakfasts in the area. You may want to consider the Southern Hotel located in the center of the town. It features a great breakfast and has a museum-like quality. Also, the Inn at St Gemme Beauvais features great breakfasts and candle-lit tables. There are a number of other accommodations you may wish to consider.

Oh, by the way, John James Audubon, the famous ornithologist, naturalist and painter hailed from St. Genevieve. Not too far away is the town of Bonne Terre. While it does not have the charm and history of St. Genevieve, it does feature the remnants of an old mine that now serves as the world's largest fresh-water dive resort. If you love to scuba dive, this place is calling your name!

So, next time your household is planning an extended weekend vacation, consider St. Genevieve. You won't be disappointed.



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

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

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



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 only open to folks within the GNA boundaries!!

Register TODAY for GNA's "Nextdoor" social website: www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com.

**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