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DGNA Meeting Minutes: November 4

The November meeting of the Dimmitts Grove Neighborhood Association was held at the home of Melanie Hunter and Stephanie Davidson. President Brad Williams called the meeting to order. Treasurer Melanie Hunter reported a balance of \$2983.54.

Karen Schmidt reported that a vacant house ordinance is nearing a vote at city council. Later we discussed rental and vacant houses in poor repair in the neighborhood. Rental houses in poor repair can be reported to Mark Huber at the city's PACE office.

The chili cook-off had a good crowd. Plenty of our neighbors met, along with a few from Founders Grove and Downtown Bloomington. Winners were: Ken Kashian - best overall; Tracy Covert - most unusual; Dawn Peters - spiciest.

Luminaries will be lit in the neighborhood on **Dec. 18**. Jerica will email with details and co-ordinate block volunteers. If you'd like to light up your block or someone else's, please contact Jerica.

Karen Schmidt and Ken Kashian will be the nominating committee for new officers to be chosen in May.

The winter traveling social hour will be hosted by Ken and Carol Kashian and Mel Hunter and Steph Davidson. Another stop may be added. It will tentatively be Feb. 26.

The next meeting, Jan. 6 will be at 606 E. Grove, hosted by Terri Clemens and Chris Eisele.

Neighborhood Recipes

Our neighbor Julia Vrooman, was a popular woman around her block. She often baked bread and took loaves to her neighbors. This is her recipe for her whole wheat bread.

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| 6 lbs. whole wheat flour (pref. stone ground, as IL wheat lacks gluten.) | 6 t. brown sugar |
| 1 1/2 lbs. white unbleached flour (from Hanner's) | 3 or 4 cakes Fleischman's yeast |
| 6 t. salt | 2 qts. tepid skim milk |

Pour salt in with flour, never with yeast.

Cream yeast and brown sugar and put into the tepid milk. Pour this liquid into the flour to make the dough. Knead and form into 2 1/2 lb. loaves or any size you wish. (I always keep a little extra liquid and also extra flour on hand so that when I form the loaves, I can add a little flour if the dough is too sticky or a little milk if the dough is too stiff, thus getting the right consistency, neither sticky nor stiff.)

Put into well greased tins and let rise twice the height. When properly risen, put tins into a hot oven (400 or 450 degrees) until crust begins to form, then turn to 300 and let bake slowly until thoroughly done. I take the loaves out of the tins, tap them all around and usually put them back into the oven (not in their tins) to insure their getting a golden brown crust about 1/8 inches when cut.

Stand on end for 4 or 5 hours to let steam escape. Best not to eat until next day. For tea or meatless meal, butter before slicing. (Butter a slice, then cut it off, etc.) By using a sharp knife it can be cut as thin as paper.

Upcoming Events

Events: @ the Bloomington Public Library

Complete, up-to-date list of programs with times & descriptions & registration info here:

<http://www.bloomingtonlibrary.org/see & do/programs/>

January's calendar includes programs for nearly all ages, with an adult winter reading program, book clubs, new release movie nights, story times, Teen GameFests, open Computer lab time, and many, many more! See the calendar at the link above for more information, or visit the Bloomington Public Library.

Events: @ the McLean County Museum of History

Complete, up-to-date list of events with times & descriptions & registration info here:

<http://www.mchistory.org/newsandevents.php>

The Dimmitt's Grove Neighborhood Association Was Established in June of 1987 to:

Help Neighbors Meet Each Other

Protect Each Other Through Neighborhood Watch

Help Residents and Others Learn About its History

Improve the Physical Appearance of the Neighborhood

Preserve What Makes it Beautiful

Everyone Living in Dimmitt's Grove is a Member and is Invited to All Functions