



## DGNA NEWSLETTER

*Issue 93 P October, 2003*

**Join us for the next DGNA meeting on Thursday November 6 at 7:00 p.m. It will be held at the home of Gaye Beck at 401 S. McLean. Become involved and help make a difference in your neighborhood!**

### **HERE'S AN OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE**

DGNA recently received matching monies (\$4000) from State Farm for our Sidewalk Replacement Grant Program. Given this increase, the grant program will reimburse 40% of your cost up to a maximum of \$500. What a deal!! The grant monies are to help pay for the replacement of public sidewalks that run in front or side of your home.

It's easy to participate in the program. If you are interested and want to get your name on the grant list, please call Terri Clemens at 828-8848 or e-mail her at [oldstuff33@hotmail.com](mailto:oldstuff33@hotmail.com).

### **FAMILY CHILI COOK-OFF**

It's time to pull out your special chili recipe and enter it in this year's Chili Cook- Off. The event will be held on Sunday October 19 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at Maria Litta Park (corner of Jackson and Gridley).

Three awards will be given for the Best All-Around, Most Unusual, and Spiciest chili. The winners will receive a chef's apron with our special DGNA Chili Cook- Off logo.

If chili is not your forte, then bring a dish or dessert to share. Beverages and table service are provided.

There will also be a variety of activities, including a three-legged sack race as well as other contests. There will be prizes for the winners and special surprises for all the kids!

This event is a great way to meet DG residents. Bring a neighbor and join in the fun.

### **FALL TRAVELING SOCIAL**

Come and join us for a wonderful evening of food, friends, and fun. The Fall Traveling Social is set for Saturday November 8. The event begins at Leigh Rohrschneider's home at 701 E. Grove St. from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Then we join James Watt in his home at 704 E. Front St. from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Both hosts would sincerely appreciate it if we would bring a dish, appetizer or beverage to share. Wondering what you can bring? Please contact our hosts Leigh at 829-1068 and James at 820-7381 or via his e-mail at [tirnaog3@yahoo.com](mailto:tirnaog3@yahoo.com).

Bring a neighbor and join us at this wonderful annual event.

## KUDOS KORNER

On behalf of the DGNA, thanks to Tina Sipula who has been serving as captain for the Washington, Clinton, Front and Clayton block. Tina is “retiring” and James Watt from Front St. will pick up the duties. Your help is really appreciated.

A big round of applause to Seth and Wendy Klessing and others who helped with the July Ice Cream Social. The ice cream and all the interesting toppings were yummy, and the croquet game was eventful for all. Can’t wait for next year’s competition.

Congrats to Terry Beitz and Brad Williams of Grove Street, and Brenda Garrett of Olive Street on their new sidewalks. They took advantage of the DGNA Sidewalk Grant Program. Your participation helped to make the neighborhood not only look better, but safer.

DGNA sincerely wants to thank State Farm for their support of our Sidewalk Grant Program. Local businesses working with our neighborhood associations can make a tremendous difference in our community.

Last but not least, thanks to Gary Justis for his articles and stories for our newsletter. Your contributions are informative and enjoyable.

## TIME FOR THOSE LITTLE GHOSTS & GOBLINS

The official night for Trick or Treat is Friday October 31 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. For their safety, please turn your lights on your front porch, and please carefully watch for them while driving. Also if you see any unusual activities that might put the children in danger, please notify the Police immediately. Together we can make this a memorable and safe night for our children



## NEIGHBORHOOD FAIR: MAKING NEIGHBORHOODS WORK

The **Making Neighborhoods Work** seminar will be held on Saturday October 25 from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the Center for Natural Science Building at IWU, 201 E. Beecher St.

The event is FREE and includes presentations from Tom Hamilton, Connie Griffin, Mike Ireland, Pamala Eaton, Mark Edwards and many others. Come and learn about code enforcement, how to be a good landlord, how to deal with a bad one, and learn about the use of our tax dollars. Come to share ideas and get new ones from our local experts.

Coffee & doughnuts start the morning, and the event wraps up with a lively discussion led by Greg Koos. Lunch is provided, free of charge.

Best of all, Dimmitt’s Grove residents can bring in \$10 to our association, for everyone over the age of 18 who registers and attends. If 10 DG residents attend, we receive a total of \$100, courtesy of the City of Bloomington.

Our neighborhoods matter and we can learn more about how to keep them safe and strong at this event. Registration information can be found at [www.uniquelybloomington.com](http://www.uniquelybloomington.com) (see the Events button) or contact Karen Schmidt ([karens@uiuc.edu](mailto:karens@uiuc.edu) or call 829-6318).

## TIME TO GET OUT THE RAKE: IT’S LEAF SEASON

The Public Service Department (PSD) will begin leaf collection in mid to late October, depending upon when the leaves begin to fall. PSD will continue pick-up until all of the leaves are collected or until the first significant snow fall. There is no set day for collection since the workload is so variable. They will collect leaves from all properties, including businesses that set them out. Leaves need to be piled out in a windrow located parallel to and behind the curb or just off

the shoulder of the roadway. They should not be placed in the street as they may cause storm sewer inlets to clog. Also, they can become an attractive nuisance for children to play in the street, and the piles in the street may cause a vehicular accident. Keep all foreign objects and other trash out of your piles since the City takes them to farmers to plow them into their soil.

## BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY UPCOMING EVENTS



### October

Thursday, October 9 - *SOCRATES @ YOUR LIBRARY*. Join us for philosophical dialogue on timely topics. Registration is required, call 828-6091, ext. 206 to register. It starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, October 21 - *Adult Book Club*. *Last Girls* by Lee Smith. Lincoln Leisure Center, at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Thursday, October 23 - *Normal Slam Poetry Team*. Join us at the Normal Public Library to watch the Normal Slam Poetry Team perform. The group has performed in town and have recently won a competition in Chicago! From 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided.

Sunday, October 26 - *Build a Stirring Book Collection*. A part of our *Collections Series*. Presented by Steve Struck from "Downtown Bloomington's About Books". Be it Tarzan or Tolstoy, in addition to being a ready source of reference and quiet pleasure, a handsome library is often a stimulant for absorbing conversation. Meet us in the Community Room from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 30 - *The Houses that Sears Built*. Join author Rosemary Thornton, author of

*The Houses that Sears Built*, for a walk through history as she talks about Sears homes. Ms. Thornton recently appeared on PBS, History Detectives. It starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

### **November**

Wednesday, November 5 - Sunday, November 9 - *Friends of the Bloomington Public Library Book Sale*.

Thursday, November 13 - *SOCRATES @ YOUR LIBRARY*. Join us for philosophical dialogue on timely topics. Registration is required, call 828-6091, ext. 206 to register. Starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Refreshments will be served.

Sunday, November 23 - *Collecting Antiques*. A part of our *Collections Series*. Join Joy and Robert Luke of "Joy Luke Fine Arts Brokers & Auctioneers" for a presentation on collecting antiques. It's held in the Community Room, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

### December

Thursday, December 11 - *SOCRATES @ YOUR LIBRARY*. Join us for philosophical dialogue on timely topics. Registration is required, call 828-6091, ext. 206 to register. Starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Refreshments will be served.

Saturday, December 6 - Keep a look out for more details about our annual "Once Upon A Holiday".

## **TERMITES AND THEIR EVIL COUSINS, CARPENTER ANTS** *by Bob Russano*

When I moved to Bloomington 28 years ago a termite inspector said, "There are two type of buildings, those that have termites and those waiting to get them". I am afraid the inspector was correct.

Every building on the block where I live has had termites at one time or another. Termites are in the soil forever waiting to come make a meal out of

your home. Annual inspection and prevention are the best ways to keep your property safe. Termites can go undetected for years and cause tremendous damage.

Years ago chlordane was pumped into the ground around your foundation as a chemical shield that lasted at least 30 years. However, that substance is no longer used.

Now, if infestation is found, a chemical is used to quickly remove the active termites and then plastic tubes are buried in the ground around your property. The tubes contain a softwood that attract termites. When the inspector comes, he removes a cap from a plastic tube and sees the termites. He then removes the plain wood and replaces it with a treated piece.

The treated piece contains a chemical that is carried back to the underground nest. All of the termites, including the queen, dine on this treated wood. This chemical stops termites from shedding its outer shell and eventually causes the entire colony to die off. It is very effective.

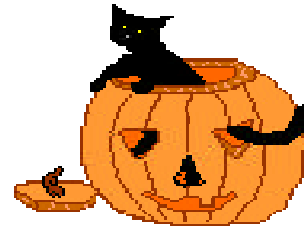
Termites are not ants, even though they are referred to as 'white ants' at times. Carpenter ants however are true ants. They are large black ants that do not eat wood. They burrow it out and use it as a home in effect causing the same type of damage as a termite.

Carpenter ants sometimes leave 'sawdust' near the openings to their tunnels. Or, you may see them coming and going from some spot in your home, inside or out. They should be exterminated professionally for the best results. If the ant colony is in a difficult location, holes will have to be drilled to inject the chemicals to rid your house of these destructive pests.

If you see evidence of ants, or have not had your house checked recently for termites, it is best to do so, for peace of mind, if not protection of the pocketbook.

Look in the phone book under pest control to locate an exterminator in our area.

## LINCOLN'S TERSE ENCOUNTER:



### AN ALLHOLLOWS EVE TALE *by Gary Justis*

Lincoln's legal duties as a public defender included long periods of travel from one county seat to another. On many occasions lawyers would travel with judges and other members of staff on horseback or in carriages. Sometimes individuals traveled alone, circumstances forcing them to be behind schedule so they had no choice but to ride through the night in order to make good time.

The year was 1850, on Allhollows Eve and Lincoln, was alone and exhausted. He moved carefully on horseback along a rough prairie road. It was mid-evening and the moon was full, illuminating the path in a silvery light. He intended to arrive several hours inside of McLean County, where he might stay the night in the farmhouse of Handy and Lotty Book. If they were not home, he could ride on in to Bloomington, hoping to wake Mrs. Laffin at Pike House Hotel and catch two hours sleep before court.

Ten miles from Bloomington, Lincoln finally caught sight of a large oak tree that marked the Book house, silhouetted against the full moonlight; its silvery edges were a welcome sight. As he got closer, a small hunched figure approached him from the darker side of the small structure. This individual, no taller than a child wore thickly cut clothing of an unfamiliar style. The figure walked with deliberate and precise movements, the head seemed to stay at one height, almost apart from the body. Lincoln thought of the slow, steady movements of a wolverine, which he had seen years before in Kentucky. "Who are you?" Lincoln asked. "One might say.....nay, many might say just an interloper...but fools there are, fools on this earth." Lincoln recoiled at the snarling sound that issued forth from the small figure. "Tell me right

now who you are and what your business is!" Lincoln commanded as he felt the heat of anger and fear shoot up the back of his neck. "Now, now, now don't get riled young Lincoln. You yourself have in-laws and relatives who look in on your property now and then. Don't misunderstand a philosopher, when things are said plainly that carry other meanings." The words were carried by a guttural moan of great intensity, rising to an excruciating shriek, as someone might cry out as they were falling from a great height. "How did you know my name? And what is your business with the family who lives here?" pressed Lincoln. There was a heavy silence, and then the small figure answered, "They are in my charge now, their souls be compressed to an impossible thinness and squeezed between the grains of wood in their bedpost! SAY MY NAME, Lincoln!"

Lincoln knew now by some incredible circumstance he was confronting an errant, miscreant of the underworld. He never had any reason to believe in the agents of Hell, convinced that "evil" had relevance solely in the machinations of man. With the demon before him, he was awe-struck. Fear seized him. Every nerve in his body seemed to suddenly ignite. He rushed the figure with a fury and physical strength that could have knocked a horse to the ground. In less than a fraction of a second, the small demon slid out of his way and Lincoln, seeing but a blur streak out to the side, tumbled forward with full force through the front door and into the tiny house. Leaping to his feet, Lincoln paused and looked around the room. He saw the bedpost, which seemed to be creaking and tapping against the floor with no apparent physical intervention. He watched in total disbelief. He reached for a maul axe hanging above the fireplace and in one movement brought down the keen edged tool and struck the crown of the bedpost with great force. With this blow, the post stood unaffected, letting forth the deafening ring of metal against metal. The axe glanced to the side and out of Lincoln's hands. To his horror, the small demon had appeared in the doorway holding the axe. "The Books belong to me, lessen 'course you might answer a query." the small figure hissed. Lincoln looked at him with fear and amazement. As the two stared at one another, Lincoln felt his strength and courage returning. A small voice

inside his head told him to "remember the words". "Ask it of me, but then release the souls of these two good folk if I answer correctly!" "Aye, then tell me Lincoln, if we face one-another, as we are now, and time itself was moving faster for me than for you, what would you see?" Lincoln thought for a moment and said, "Nothing, I would see nothing." The demon was surprised at the answer. His blood glazed eyes widened, then slowly narrowed to slits. There was a moment of silence then the small figure asked, "Be you an angel Lincoln?" "Nay" was Lincoln's reply. "Be you Man?" Asked the demon, "I AM !" thundered Lincoln, and with that pronouncement, the demon let forth a hideous cry. The demon bolted for the door and Lincoln caught him by the scruff of the neck, and held the twisting figure at arm's length. In the next instant the demon dissolved in a yellow flame that died to a small cloud of smoke, then to yellowish dust that lay in a pile on the floor.

Lincoln took up the maul where it lay in the dust and summoned all his strength. He struck the bedpost squarely on it's top. The wood yielded with a loud "crack", the two halves flew to opposite sides of the cabin. The figures of Handy and Lotty Book tumbled across the cabin floor. The young couple lay there on the floor, unscathed, as if waking from a gentle sleep. Handy opened his eyes. "Abe! What happened?" Lincoln summoned all his emotional courage; trying to show calmness on his face Lincoln answered, "Apparently a small earth tremor. Rare in these parts. I arrived just a moment ago. You both must have blacked out from a sudden jolt, it looks like you and Lotty are fine." Lincoln helped them to their feet, brushing particles of wood from their clothing. "Strangest thing, my watch stopped at 10:00 p.m. What time do you have Mr. Lincoln?" "Oh it's ten alright. I thought I might put up here tonight if it wouldn't put you folks out. And by the way, sorry 'bout that pile of dust I tracked in. I'll just sweep it up."

Lincoln kept a small pinch of that yellow dust and carried it in a leather pouch with him wherever he went. Perhaps he thought of this strange souvenir as a warning to other agents of the underworld, or perhaps he thought it might be a good reminder of the strangeness in this world, and how there are fields of evidence that might prove that an invisible

realm does exist. As for ourselves, we can all be reminded of those invisible realms when we hear the creaking of wood in whatever form we might encounter, be it from nature or by manufacture.

## **DGNA MEETING MINUTES** **September 4, 2003** *by Carol Kashian, Secretary*

The meeting was held at the Kashian home and was called to order by the President. July 2003 minutes were approved, and John Elterich gave the treasurer's report.

Residents expressed concerns about the architecturally inappropriate new housing in our neighborhood, and the potential for other buildings. Karen Schmidt suggested that we explore zoning alternatives to prevent this. A consensus was reached that we need to formally address this problem. Since Normal has current zoning and historic district ordinances to address this, Karen will obtain these ordinances. A committee was formed, Karen Schmidt, Sally Graumlich and Chris Kalapp, to investigate how to address zoning and building issues. Options will be presented at a later date to DGNA.

The **Making Neighborhoods Work Seminar** is set for Saturday October 25 from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the Center for Natural Science Building at IWU, 201 E. Beecher St. City personnel and local experts will make presentations. Speakers will include Greg Koos, Tom Hamilton, Pamala Eaton and Mike Ireland. Free lunch will be provided. The City will give DGNA \$10.00 for each DG resident attending (up to \$100). Registration information can be found at [www.uniquelybloomington.com](http://www.uniquelybloomington.com) (see the Events button) or contact Karen Schmidt ([karens@uiuc.edu](mailto:karens@uiuc.edu) or call 829-6318).

Dates for two DGNA Fall annual events have been set. The Family Chili Cook – Off is Sunday October 19 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Faye Kalapp will organize the event. The Fall Traveling Social will be Saturday November 8. The social will begin at Leigh Rohrschneider's house at 701 E. Grove St. from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. and then move to James Watt's home at 704 E. Front St. from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Guest are asked to bring a appetizer, dish or beverage to share.

Two Sidewalk Grant awards have been given to Brad Williams and Terry Beitz, and Brenda Garrett. The matching money proposal sent to State Farm has been approved and \$4000 was awarded to our sidewalk

program. With this increase in monies, a motion was passed to increase the assistance to 40% reimburse with a maximum of \$500. Terri Clemens has identified homes that could benefit from sidewalk replacement. A letter will be sent to these homeowners encouraging them to take advantage of the grant program. A budget of \$7,400 is still available for the Sidewalk Replacement Grant Program.

Chris Kalapp presented a proposal to offer a Historical Essay Contest for middle and high school students. This proposal would include partnering with State Farm, Library, and the McLean County Museum of History. State Farm would provide prizes of used computers and DGNA cash awards. A committee consisting of Chris and Faye Kalapp, Pamala Eaton and Aimee Campbell will further explore this proposal, to develop concrete process of how to conduct it, and a budget.

Committee reports were given. Pam Eaton indicated the need for Block Captains for two blocks: Clayton-Clinton - Olive, & Taylor, and Mill – Evans - McLean, & Jackson. Brad Williams reported various activities that have gone on in the past 2 months--broken car windows, a car set on fire, foot traffic, etc. EVERYONE needs to be aware and report ANY suspicious activity or persons to the police.

Items for the newsletter needs to be to Sally Graumlich by September 15. Things can be sent via e-mail at [fiddle@uic.edu](mailto:fiddle@uic.edu) or call her at 829 – 4628.

The next DGNA meeting will be held at the home of Gaye Beck at 401 S. McLean St. starting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 6, 2003.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT YOUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE CONTACT SALLY AT 829-4628 OR FIDDLE@UIC.EDU</b></p>
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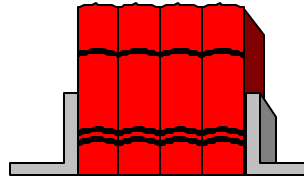
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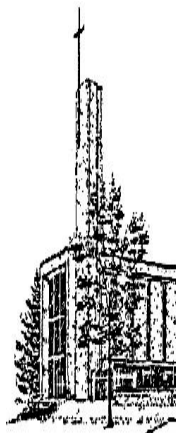
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Sunday School held at 9:30AM  
Interpreter for hearing Impaired at 9:30AM service  
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