



DRAKE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

Spring 2014

DNA Business Partner Program

The Drake Neighborhood Association Marketing Committee is putting the final touches on its Business Partner Program for 2014.

Businesses can become a partner in the program for as little as \$125 and can support the Drake Neighborhood Association for as little as \$50. Benefits increase with sponsorship levels and include things like company logo on marketing materials, Facebook posts and newsletter advertisements.

The DNA is also looking for businesses to become partners and help sponsor events throughout the year.

Please welcome & support our newest business partners:

Gold Partner:	Silver Partner:	Bronze Partner:
Drake University	Bijou Grafix	Vom Fass

New Supporting Members:

Des Moines Community Playhouse	St. Catherine Student Center
DoStix	Schneider Auto
Grace United Methodist Church	

If you have an interest in becoming a partner or supporting member, contact Jennifer Sayers (jen@bijougrafix.com) or Kristina Johnson (kj4kristina.johnson@gmail.com) or visit our website: drakeneighborhoodassociation.org for more information.

Membership Updates

The Drake Neighborhood Association has just incorporated a new membership tracking system through our website that will allow us to more easily communicate with our members and build association membership. We are reaching out to members to renew. If you have questions about your membership or your renewal, please contact Erica Luna at erica.j.luna@gmail.com

See the additional attachment included with this newsletter for a website Membership Tutorial. Go to www.drakeneighborhood.org to get started.

DNA Board Meetings

April 9, 7:00 pm
May 14, 7:00 pm
June 11, 7:00 pm
July 9, 7:00 pm

Monthly Board Meetings are now held at St. Catherine Student Center at 1150 28th Street

Calendar

PIZZA PARTY & Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, March 26
6:00 pm
Forest Ave Senior Center
2008 Forest Ave

Ako Abdul-Samad will speak about the Urban Core Plan

Sounds Without Bounds

March 22 • 7:30 pm
Sheslow Auditorium
2507 University Ave.

Scrub day

Saturday, April 19 • 7am-1pm
Hoover High School, 4800 Aurora Ave.

Drake Relays

April 23-27

Forestdale Garage Sale

Saturday, June 7 • 8 am-2pm

Free Flicks - GRAVITY

July 3 Witmer Park at sunset

www.drakeneighborhood.org

CONNECT WITH US ON





Grow Your Green

A new local workshop series gives Des Moines homeowners the power to start living sustainably.

The series titled Grow Your Green helps homeowners experience simple ways to live more sustainably. The sessions are presented by Green Iowa AmeriCorps and Center on Sustainable Communities (COSC).

Green Iowa AmeriCorps is a recent addition to Des Moines area AmeriCorps service programs and the group of five members will be part of COSC's team through July. The service members are here to lead a community outreach effort to improve energy efficiency in homes. Green Iowa AmeriCorps' multifaceted approach includes conducting a variety of educational workshops and developing resources with COSC, creating programs with local schools, and coordinating a friendly neighborhood association competition between Beaverdale, Gray's Lake and Lower Beaver through MidAmerican Energy's new Save Some Green Neighborhood Initiative.

The Green Iowa AmeriCorps members are producing humorous and informative video skits to promote each Grow Your Green workshop. The episodes are available at <http://www.youtube.com/IowaCOSC>.

Join the new Community Engagement Committee

Are you proud to live in the Drake neighborhood? Do you want to get to know more current residents and welcome new ones? Do you want to improve Des Moines' perceptions of the Drake Neighborhood? Then we want YOU.

The Community Engagement Committee will host our next meeting on Sunday, April 6. For location and time, contact Bethany Wilcoxon at bethany.wilcoxon@gmail.com. Come together with your neighbors and find ways to welcome new neighbors, educate the community about Drake Neighborhood's past and present, and improve public perceptions of the neighborhood. Bring your ideas of how to make Drake Neighborhood a place where you're excited to live!

The Community Engagement Committee is a new group to promote leadership and discussion throughout the Drake Neighborhood. The neighborhood thrives when we all come together to talk about problems and everyone gets involved in the solution. We want to hear your voice. Currently the Community Engagement Committee is considering issues like increasing involvement between Drake University and Drake Neighborhood Association, creating events to introduce new neighbors to Drake Neighborhood and our history, increasing the visibility and identity of the Drake Neighborhood, and promoting a more positive neighborhood image. We are an open and active group, so tell us what's meaningful to you.

Please join us for an hour to meet more of your neighbors, tell us what you love about the Drake Neighborhood, and talk about how to change the things you don't like. For more information, contact Bethany Wilcoxon at bethany.wilcoxon@gmail.com.

We Need Your Perennials!

Do you have perennials that need dividing and don't need them? We do! Now that spring is just around the corner, the DNA is working on this year's perennial sale. We are asking our neighborhood gardeners to donate any perennials that they are planning to divide and don't have use for in their own garden.

We would like to get plants by the end of April or the first week in May. If you need a little help or have any questions about how to divide your perennials, email **Kevin Venhaus** at kcvenhaus@mchsi.com. He would be glad to help and can also provide you with empty nursery pots.

The time and location of the sale will be announced in April at www.drakeneighborhood.org and on our facebook page so keep checking for more information!



Celebrating 2 years!

Join in on the fun festivities
March 28th and 29th at VOM FASS
at the Shops of Roosevelt!
 Check our web page vomfassdsm.com
 for more tasty details!

Before & After Project

By Erica Luna

I was not interested in buying a fixer upper house so my expectations were low when my fiancé (now husband) and I toured a house in the Drake Neighborhood in 2009. A project was the last thing we needed since we were both going to school, working full time and planning a wedding. I was as surprised as anyone when we started talking about our offer and plans for the house as soon as the car doors were shut and we were driving away. Three months later we had the keys and a project like none we'd had before.



We were both green in the arts of home restoration, and still are in many ways, but I like to think we've come a long way since then. Plumbing, electrical and HVAC were endeavors we never intended to take on so we outsourced those along with construction of a new garage. However, window restoration, plaster repair, wood floor and trim refinishing, demolition and tiling are now skills we can proudly claim to have in our personal repertoire. It's not as if the work is done- I would hate to give that impression. A remodeled kitchen is still a twinkle in our eyes (someday!) and we hope to outfit our screened porch with custom built wood storm windows this year.

As much fun as I've had doing this, there have been times when I've been overwhelmed and needed to take a step back. My husband and I can both remember times when we just had to take a break. That being said, I wouldn't have it any other way and based on our experience, I want to offer some advice to current and future home restoration enthusiasts. First, take a ton of pictures including before, during and after shots of your work. It's a huge boost to morale to see how far you've come. Second, find someone to commiserate with. We have learned a lot from the Des Moines Rehabber's Club and people we've met in the neighborhood (plus your new friends probably have tools you can borrow). Third, be patient. Your restoration list may be long but it's not the only list in life you have. Finally, I highly recommend any class offered by Bob Yapp <http://www.bobyapp.com>. I've come away from each of the three classes I've taken with new skills and a considerable boost in my spirits just knowing I how much I've learned.

Some people may be afraid to take on a project like we did, and maybe we were just too naïve to be afraid, but it's worth it in so many ways. It's a good financial investment but also an investment in ourselves. The challenges, failures and triumphs have taught us both some hardy lessons. I can't wait to see what our next project brings!

Neighborhood Rebuilding Day

We are currently gearing up for the Wells Fargo National Rebuilding Day, May 3, and are looking for volunteers to help us with the day. There are a number of different ways to volunteer with us.

General Volunteers: General volunteers may help with organizing and preparing the warehouse for the day, help deliver materials to the teams the day of, or be assigned to help a team with lighter projects. There are many different roles general volunteers might fill.

Skilled Volunteers: Examples of skilled volunteers include plumbers, carpenters, electricians, or other tradesmen. Skilled volunteers might help with some prep work in the days leading up to the rebuilding day, help with a part of a project that might need more expertise, or help follow up with something after the project day.

Crew Coordinators: Crew coordinators assist house captains with paper work and team organization. They take care of volunteer waivers, incident reports, and other paper work leading up to and on the project day.

If you think you want to volunteer with Rebuilding Together for the May 3 project, please **contact Clay Daggett at 515-280-1674 or cdaggett@rebuildingdm.org**.



Grace United
Methodist Church

Celebrate Easter with us!

Saturday, April 19 at 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 20 at 8 and 10:15 a.m.

The 10:15 service will include a brass ensemble and all four of our vocal choirs.

37TH AND COTTAGE GROVE



Window Workshop

The Des Moines Rehabbers Club invites you and your neighbors to attend our upcoming hands-on window restoration workshop. The event is targeted for late April (exact date to be locked in soon) for a workshop featuring restoration expert David Wadsworth, who will teach a group of up to 20 people how to repair and weatherize wood windows from start to finish.

The benefits of window restoration are clear: Historically appropriate windows add to the character and desirability of a neighborhood. Maintaining existing windows rather than replacing them keeps debris out of our landfills. This method yields results equivalent to the energy efficiency of replacement windows at a fraction of the cost. Rehabbed, well-maintained, old-growth wood windows can last hundreds of years. Replacement windows

can fail in as little as 15-20 years and most are not repairable.

Our goal is for participants to gain the knowledge to restore their own windows.

The cost per participant for this intensive two-day workshop will be \$150. Participants will work on salvaged window sashes under David's guidance, with tools and learning materials they'll get to take home with them. They'll learn skills they can use on their own homes and hopefully share with their neighbors.

Please contact the people listed below with questions. Actual workshop dates and ticket sales will be announced soon!

Kelli Lydon 515-451-7559
kelli.a.lydon@gmail.com

Brian Messenger 515-290-4497
brianmessenger@gmail.com

Tanya Keith
tanyahkeith@gmail.com

Neighborhood Issues? Call These Numbers

The Drake Neighborhood is one of ten Des Moines' neighborhoods that participate in the City's Neighborhood Based Service Delivery program (NBSD). The program incorporates assets from all city departments in an effort to enhance the quality of services to the designated neighborhoods. Make sure to contact them if you have a crime, suspicion, zoning or housing related problem in your neighborhood. Make sure to contact each member of the NBSD team, including the Drake Neighborhood Association NBSD Committee member by e-mail and/or phone. If you don't contact them, they may not know that there is a problem. Its e-mail address is nbsd@drakeneighborhood.org. Once you notify our entire team, the issue has a much better chance of being resolved. If we work together as neighbors and help our team out, everybody wins.

The Neighborhood Enforcement Team members for the Drake Neighborhood are:

Mark McKinney
Des Moines Police Department/NBSD
(515)778-4218
mamckinney@dmgov.org

Chris Reindl
Housing Inspector
Office (515) 283-4797 Cell (515) 208-0285
clreindl@dmgov.org

Jon Raleigh
Housing Inspector
Office (515) 237-1437 Cell (515) 515-208-0311
jpraleigh@dmgov.org

Bill Cappuccio
NBSD Committee Chair
(515) 710-7591
bill@wrc3.net

Other Helpful Numbers
Police (Non-emergency): 283-4811
City Action Center: 283-4500
Animal Control: 242-2720
Graffiti Hotline: 283-4500
Weed Control: 286-3005

In the event of a crime related emergency ALWAYS first call 911!

Brochures • Business Cards • Stationery • Logos • Menus
Newsletters • Posters • Magazines • Videos • Banners
Advertising • Annual Reports • Event Planning
Pocket Folders • Directories • And More!



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