

DRAKE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Photo by G.D. Gourd

Tour of

Historic Homes

10am-4pm

JUNE 4-5



2005

*Horse
Drawn
Carriage*
11-3 Both Days

Featuring the Kingman Blvd.
& Cottage Grove Area



Drake Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 41128
Des Moines, IA 50311
info@drake neighborhood.org
www.drake neighborhood.org

The Drake Neighborhood Association includes the area from the McVicar Freeway, 42nd Street, Franklin Avenue and M.L. King, Jr. Parkway.

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Membership Info

\$20/household

\$30/business or organization

Contact Denise at 274-1910

Mission

To gain awareness and instill pride in our neighborhood; to make our neighbors feel secure in their persons and their belongings; to preserve and beautify our neighborhood; to promote a healthy business climate for area businesses; to encourage a self-help attitude in our neighborhood.

3609 Kingman Blvd.



This year starts with a Historic Home Tour veteran. As some may remember, Viki Cameron's 1914 house has been on the Tour twice. However, guests this year will notice many new additions to her home.

Brian Lenz, Viki's husband, has recently crafted a new book case as a part of the transformation of the upstairs office. He has also completed a new addition to the side yard, and ingeniously added a second fountain to their lush back yard gardens.

A true artist, Viki has filled her home with art and stenciling of her own creation. Be sure to take time to look at her wonderful sketches, drawings and paintings.

1065 36th Street



Our second house is owned by Frank and Irene Pesta. The relaxing front porch on this 1914 house has served as a great place for these homeowners to relax for a number of years.

You'll want to be sure to check out the interior of this traditional four-square, which includes a beautiful staircase, hardwood floors and an interesting decorative flavor.

1107 36th Street



The oldest house on this year's tour is also the most modern! Angela Tamasi is the owner of this 1908 four-square. Feeling cramped by all the walls in her home, she took on the huge project of tearing them all down. The result is a large open space with a very modern feel.

She replaced all the hardwood floors with a new wide beam wood that brightens up the space. Notice the fun contrast between the painted and the originally-stained wood trim.

Angela wanted to bring the flair of a newer home into the traditional grandeur of an older house and we think she's done a superb job!

1143 36th Street



Each room in this 1910 four-square has been improved in some way by owners Kelly Roberson and Rob Whitehead. From a complete kitchen and bath overhaul (which was featured in the August 2004 issue of *Remodeling Ideas*) to stripping the upstairs woodwork and adding a second-level picture rail, the home has been restored to its former self, with the addition of some practical, contemporary touches along the way.

The downstairs half-bath was flipped from its original position to allow better access off the kitchen, while the living room now serves as the dining room for a more secluded family space.

Recent projects include a sunroom/office remodel, and an exterior rear deck. Future plans include a multi-year landscaping and hardscaping project.

3815 Cottage Grove



An odd second story room jutting out over the driveway makes this house stand out from the crowd. Beautiful woodwork and furnishings make this house a standout on the inside, too. The modern four-square features an enclosed three season front porch with stucco and siding exterior.

Quiet nights on the front porch are a real treat in this 1919 home. Jeff and Terry Taylor have owned the house since 2002.

42nd Street

7

6

5

8

Cottage Grove

9

10

40th Street

Kingman Blv

			<div data-bbox="619 145 736 264">4</div> <div data-bbox="619 320 736 440">3</div> <div data-bbox="774 129 832 440" style="background-color: #00AEEF; color: white; padding: 5px;">Greek Food Fair</div>
38th Street	<div data-bbox="80 488 229 804" style="background-color: #00AEEF; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">Grace United Methodist Church</div> <div data-bbox="249 587 291 823">37th Street</div>	<div data-bbox="449 807 566 927" style="background-color: #E91E63; color: white; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">1</div> <div data-bbox="539 488 581 724" style="text-align: center;">36th Street</div>	<div data-bbox="622 756 739 876" style="background-color: #E91E63; color: white; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">2</div> <div data-bbox="785 587 826 823" style="text-align: center;">35th Street</div>
d.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 3609 Kingman 2. 1065 36th Street 3. 1107 36th Street 4. 1143 36th Street 5. 3815 Cottage Grove 6. 3939 Cottage Grove 7. 4001 Cottage Grove 8. 4048 Cottage Grove 9. 4100 Kingman 10. 1004 40th Street 	

3939 Cottage Grove



Karyl Swartz is a new Des Moines resident. As a collector of African tribal art, it was very important for Karyl to find an appropriate house to display her art collection. The repetition of the arch in this 1920 home provided just the right feel for her. The large landscaped yard was also an attraction for the owner of two dogs.

Visitors will note the non-traditional look of this house, and the way this contrasts with the square houses flanking each side. The master bedroom is unique in that light floods the room from morning until night. The house is also blessed with several built-in cabinets and enclosed or partially enclosed porches.

Recently Karyl has repainted much of the downstairs in coordinating colors. This new look has brightened up an already colorful house.

4001 Cottage Grove



This unique brick home was built in 1917 and is owned by Michael and Julie Grundberg.

The home sits on a nearly 30,000 square foot lot. The mature trees and shrubs give the yard a park-like feel. It boasts two fireplaces and is still heated with steam.

Originally a wrap-around porch, the enclosed four season porch is now a great addition to the living space.

4048 Cottage Grove



As Drake students, Adam Schnieders and Jessica Willems knew that the Drake neighborhood was for them. After finishing college they looked for a true diamond-in-the-rough to fix up. Their dreams were answered in this house.

An odd collection of previous updates had made quite the jigsaw puzzle of the house. Nearly every interior surface had to be replaced or repaired. Among their projects are: adding a half bath to the downstairs, replacing the hardwood floors, and redesigned the kitchen.

The result is a very warm and inviting house that matches the modern living style of the homeowners, yet maintains most of the important details of an old 1916 house.

4100 Kingman Blvd.



A perennial favorite, this year represents the third year that Rachel and Wayne Almlie have once again opened their home for the Tour of Historic Homes. One look at the inside of their home will tell you exactly why their house has been a crowd favorite. The antique furnishings and decorations, combined with the intricately carved woodwork, make this house a delight.

Visitors are encouraged to take their time and look at each of the rooms and think of life back in 1911, when this house was built. At that time, pianos just like the one in this house, were an important part of life in the time before radio and TV.

1004 40th Street



Carole and Kevin Venhaus' property has taken on a remarkable transformation in the last few years. From opening up the front porch, to some extensive landscaping, Carole and Kevin have transformed this stucco Craftsman.

Kevin, a builder of Mission-style furniture, has furnished their home in works he has created just for the 1920s house. Nearly all of the furniture in the house bears his mark – even the front door!

A trip past this house would not be complete without stopping to see the extensive landscaping in both the front and the back. A mix of perennials and potted annuals make the front porch come alive.

In Memoriam

Michael David Thomas

Michael David Thomas, 42, was born on May 5, 1962 to Judy and John Thomas. He graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1980. He also attended Grandview College. At the time of his death, he was employed as a bartender at the Drake Diner, where he had worked for 17 years. He was a member of the Drake Neighborhood Association.

Michael loved Victorian architecture and furniture and all types of music. He enjoyed attending the opera and his greatest passion was gardening. He planted many flowers and trees all throughout the Drake Neighborhood that will be admired for years to come.

A few years ago, Michael achieved his dream and rescued a neglected Victorian home and was in the process of restoring it to its original grandeur.

Plans to create a garden at 25th and Cottage Grove in his memory are underway. Donations to assist in the revitalization of Carpenter Square may be made at the Drake Diner, 1111 25th Street.



Thank You!

We wish to thank these individuals, businesses and organizations for their generous support of the 2005 Tour of Historic Homes.

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And all the other wonderful people who had a hand in making this Tour successful!