

The Greendale Original

The newsletter of the Greendale Originals Neighborhood Association

An organization of residents of Greendale Original Homes
for the purpose of education, representation, service, promotion, and preservation
of our historic neighborhood.

November 2005

Thanksgiving and other thoughts

by Ginny Emmons

It is now November and the time for Thanksgiving. All of us in the original village can be thankful for having the extreme fortune to live in a beautiful, safe and friendly neighborhood. Thankful for a neighborhood where children can walk to school no matter what age, from kindergarten through high school. Thankful that you can jog safely in the morning or walk your dog at night without fear. Thankful for the parades and seasonal festivals just steps from our doors, and band concerts and entertainment every summer weekend in the gazebo. Thankful for being so close that you can walk to church on Sunday, or to shop either in the village center (look there first) or to the big mall. With the rising prices of gasoline, this is no small blessing! And if one needs to go farther away to the city, public transportation goes right through the village.

So what could be wrong with this picture?

Did you know that we are not represented in Village government? Not one of the Village Board members lives in the original village! Yet the Board can decide how our tax dollars are spent, how government Block Grants received earmarked for the original village are used, and what we, ourselves, should do with the spaces we have, either on our property or public land green space in our midst.

This is something to think about when nominations and elections for Village Trustee come up this winter and spring. How about one of you thankful and interested citizens putting your name on the ballot? The job requires attendance at two board meetings per month and possibly a few committee meetings. Compensation for new Trustees is \$4,741 the first year, \$4,841 the second year and \$4,937 the third year, plus a pension and some other benefits. The office holder of Village President receives \$7,750 for year one, plus \$7,905 and \$8,063 for years two and three respectively.

So monetary gain aside just think how you, living in the heart of it all, by running and getting elected can help your original neighborhood stay as great as it is!

Next meeting

Wednesday, November 2, 2005

Join us for dinner (dutch treat) at 6:00 p.m. at Heinemann's followed by brief meeting. Agenda is: Old Business-

- Elections
- Speakers
- News letter
- Any business brought before the group

www.originalgreendale.org

A word from the President

As the new president of GONA, I have written some of my ideas about the organization so I could effectively perform my duties. I wish to share these ideas with you. Our mission is to educate, represent, serve, promote, and preserve our historic neighborhood. Our voting membership consists of any family member of a resident or owner of a Greendale Original. Our meetings are open to anyone with an interest in Greendale Originals. We meet on the first Wednesday of every month. Our meetings vary between business meetings, social events, and educational events with guest speakers. We charge no dues and are supported by fund raisers. Our newsletter is supported by selling advertisements and volunteer deliverers. Our November meeting will be a social activity and everyone is invited to join us. (See the meeting notice at the bottom of this page)

Like many other associations, GONA is a group of people with a common interest in Greendale Originals, but diverse ideas about what the association should support. It is my position that GONA should not take a position on certain issues, but provide the membership with an opportunity to express their opinions to the appropriate people. An example of this type of issue is the Design Guidelines. I hope to have an educational event with the Guidelines as the topic. On the other hand, GONA has taken a position to support the Historical Society in setting up an original home as a museum. We also supported saving the Youth Building and construction of Daffodil Playground.

The Neighborhood Association does not intend to support political activities. Some of our members are politically active. I support their right to express their views at our meetings and in the news letters as long as it is clear that these are the writers' opinions.

Opposing views are welcome. If you would like to be heard or have an article published in the news letter, come to our business meetings. My goal for the association is to present members with the necessary information to make educated decisions. I hope my meetings will be a place where people can have lively discussions, agree to disagree, and still be friends.

GONA has a wealth of ideas on how to serve and promote our community. If you would like to give back to the community, come join us.

Bob Theierfelder, President

Speaker at December Meeting

Greendale Originals have some unique fire safety issues. Plan on attending the December 7 meeting in the Greendale Library Community Room as our guest speaker will be the Greendale fire Chief.

Newsletter and board volunteers needed

At the October meeting I informed the GONA board that I would not be renewing my board term when it is up at the end of the year, and would be resigning as newsletter editor at that time as well. I originally volunteered to do four issues to get it going, and am now past a dozen. Thus I feel I have done all I can with the newsletter, and it is time to let someone else take over.

The Village has established and enforced the guidelines, but provides absolutely no resources for complying with those guidelines. A good example is providing a resource of contacts for doing roof repairs, etc. GONA has worked to fill that void with both the Good Experience List (available on the GONA website) and the newsletter.

Thus the newsletter is important as it informs residents and owners how to maintain their homes, and provides a bit of his-

torical background as to why things are the way they are.

Duties for the newsletter include layout, writing some articles, editing submitted articles to fit, and gathering the advertising. The advertising part could be handled by another person, which might make the job easier. My time commitment for doing the newsletter has usually been less than five hours an issue.

If you are interested please contact me at (262)679-1139 or jruss@execpc.com.

Also, the position of Vice-President is still open. Please consider becoming more active in GONA in the upcoming new year, as the organization can only be as strong as those who contribute towards it.

Joe Russ

GONA Officers and Directors

President: Bob Theierfelder

greendaleoriginals@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Open

Treasurer: Cheryl Koc - 421-4821

Secretary: Kathleen Hart

Board Member: Al Emmons - 423-1133

Board Member: Ginny Emmons - 423-1133

Board Member: Joe Russ - (262)679-1139

jruss@execpc.com

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