

The  
**Inman Park**  
**Advocator**  
*Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News*



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 Newsletter of Inman Park Neighborhood Association • 254 North Highland Ave., N.E. • STE. 230-401 • Atlanta, GA 30307

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*By Lisa Burnette*

Heading into the holidays I think a lot about new friends and old friends. In our community, I've had the pleasure of seeing so many new Inman Parkers show up at IPNA meetings. They bravely stand up to introduce themselves to a roomful of neighbors who all seem to know each other by first name and all laugh at the inside jokes about our neighborhood and each other. Is it intimidating to reach out and meet us when you move here? Are we as welcoming as we think we are?

For a few years, we have had an open chair position for the defunct newcomers committee. Even when that position was filled, it seems we had not fully developed how to best reach new neighbors and welcome them to Inman Park. Perhaps we're not yet used to the explosive growth in the number of Inman Park residences that has occurred in the past five years or more. In earlier years, many of the same faces occupied the finite number of houses here year after year. There has been talk at various points of developing a neighborhood brochure or newcomer packet. Would that be helpful, or should we continue to let new neighbors gradually figure it out by reading *The Advocator*, the blog, the yahoo group posts, and attending meetings and events?

My predecessor, **Anda Olsen**, made it her mission as president to challenge us to reach out weekly and touch new neighbors. She started each meeting with a poll of who had done so. While I promised not to put you on the spot at meetings to fess up about whether you had introduced yourself to someone new that month I do encourage you to be a friendly, welcoming neighbor to newcomers when you see them. I hope I have been able to use online communications and social networking in a way that has been informative to new neighbors and made them more comfortable in their new community.

What can we do better? If you are relatively new to Inman Park, have you found it intimidating to show up at a porch party, meeting, or other IP event? Do you find it difficult to get information about what goes on in Inman Park or to get involved if you'd like to? Let me know by dropping me a note at [president@inmanpark.org](mailto:president@inmanpark.org) and tell me what your experience has been like, and how we can do better. Perhaps you'd like to fill that chair that's been sitting so empty and head a newcomers committee?

The holidays and vacation time over the next month is a perfect time to get to know some new neighbors, as well as connecting with the old. I will be posting information about events in and around our neighborhood on the blog which may give you an opportunity to do just that.

Happy and safe holidays to ALL my Inman Park neighbors!

## LAST CALL FOR 2010 INMAN PARK FESTIVAL HOUSE TOUR!

*By Pat Westrick for the House Tour Committee*

We have a wonderful house tour set up for Inman Park Festival in 2010, and we need just one more garden to make it perfect. The ideal place for it is on Waddell St., Dixie St., Druid Circle, or Spruce St., and it can be either flowers or vegetables (or even livestock, as is being featured by one of our gardens!).

You can volunteer yourself or a neighbor (we won't tell; we're the soul of discretion!). Call or e-mail either

**Jan Keith** at 404-688-7330 or e-mail to [kingkeith@mindspring.com](mailto:kingkeith@mindspring.com) or **Pat Westrick** at 404-523-4801 or e-mail to [patwestrick@realtor.com](mailto:patwestrick@realtor.com).

It's for the good of the 'hood!

A very happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year  
 are wished for you by your devoted *Advocator* staff:

Randy Bailey  
 Angela Carrington  
 Whatley Fenlon  
 Diane Floyd  
 Lisa Harris  
 Joyce Sayle  
 Betty Ridderhoff

# MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2009, IPNA MEETING

By *Stephanie McCaa, Secretary*

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEWCOMERS

Adam Stillman filled in for **Lisa Burnette** who could not attend the meeting. He asked newcomers to introduce themselves and **Scott Steinbach** did.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Adam reminded everyone that if you suffered flood damage from the recent storms, you might qualify for FEMA assistance. For more information go to [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) by November 23.
2. **Pat Westrick** announced that porch parties will begin again in February. Please contact her if you would like to host a party. She also shared that the Horizon Theatre is offering discounts to Inman Park residents for *The Santaland Diaries* performance on December 1 and 2. She will also post this information on the Yahoo Group.
3. **Oreon Mann** announced the Book Club will not have a meeting in November or December. However, the Book Club holiday party will be hosted by **Patty McGuigan-Robinson** on December 2 at 814 Virgil St. Please bring a covered dish to share and a book for a book exchange.
4. **Richard Westrick** asked neighbors to help with a tree planting on Saturday, November 21.

## MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

A motion to accept the Minutes from last month's meeting was made, seconded, and carried.

## POLICE OFFICERS' REPORTS

**Sgt. Brent Schierbaum**, head of the Inman Park Security Patrol, reported that home burglaries are down, however, we have had two commercial robberies. He asked everyone to be on the lookout for two white males with a red car. Car break-ins continue to be a problem. Little Five Points has the highest number of incidents. A recent trend has been people stealing catalytic converters and batteries from cars (including cars parked at Roger Jordan's Garage). These thieves should be easy to spot since they have to be under your car to remove the parts. He reminded everyone not to leave valuables in your car.

He then gave a report about IPP **Officer Welch** catching a man who had been a suspect for several robberies including an incident at the Irwin Street Market. **Investigator Roy** arrested **Sean Wilcox**. He had been acting suspicious and casing houses. He was carrying a loaded 22-caliber gun when he was arrested. Excellent work by these officers.

Sgt. Schierbaum reiterated that you should always call 911 first and then call the IPP. If you get the voicemail for IPP, please leave a message with the time you called because their phone does not have a time stamp. Please let him know if you see panhandlers in the retail and/or residential areas because we want to keep the neighborhood as friendly to residents and visitors as possible.

**Bob Sandage** announced the Officer of the Month. Officer **Ari Bleifeld** will receive a \$50 gift certificate from IPNA in recognition of his outstanding work. This month Officer Bleifeld arrested a man who was wanted in DeKalb and Fulton counties. He also found two graffiti taggers and arrested them. **John Floyd** asked what would happen to the taggers. Sgt. Schierbaum explained they spend the night in jail and then are released.

**Major Propes** was able to report on a Crimestoppers story that aired last week. Because neighbors had taken photographs of the suspect prowling and burglarizing, **Anthony Biggs** was identified and arrested. He is a repeat offender with four previous burglary and rape convictions. Please participate in Courtwatch so we can ensure he remains behind bars.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

There were no elected official present. **Adam Stillman** reminded everyone to vote on December 1.

## IPNA OFFICERS' REPORTS

### PLANNING – **Bill Goodman**

Bill was not able to attend. **Adam Stillman** reported for him. He has wrapped up the survey. There were 360 respondents. He will be compiling the results to share soon.

### ZONING – **VP Amy Higgins**

The restaurant proposed for the corner of North Highland Ave. and Colquitt Ave. (the previous Casbah space) was on the agenda tonight but the owner needs another month to prepare. He has some parking challenges because of limited space. There was an immediate neighbors' meeting on November 4 about rezoning the lot adjacent to this commercial building (479 North Highland Ave., the lot where a house burned down a couple of years ago) and they voted against rezoning.

**NPU-N - Megan Holder** is still in Hong Kong. **Jonathan Miller** reported for her. Project Greenspace ([www.atlanta-greenspace.com](http://www.atlanta-greenspace.com)) is a plan to update the city's greenspace plan (which has not been updated since 1993). The project has three goals: grow, manage, and build capacity. The City of Atlanta does not have as much green space as other comparable cities. The green space that does exist is not spread equitably around the city. The southern and western sides of the city do not have adequate parks. **Danny Feig-Sandoval** made a motion to support Jonathan's support of Project Greenspace. The motion was seconded and carried.

### PUBLIC SAFETY – **VP Bob Sandage**

Bob has been focusing on events to raise awareness and money for the Inman Park Patrol. He thanked the new neighborhood restaurant Pure Taqueria for their support. They raised \$1,200 for Security Patrol.

He announced The Santa's Safety 5K Run will be on Sunday, December 13, at 10:30 a.m. They are still looking for sponsors,

volunteers, and participants. There are all levels of sponsorship. He stressed the most important element is registering participants. The goal is to have 200-250 participants. Please register in advance so they can plan accordingly. All revenue after costs will go to the Security Patrol.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION – VP Adam Stillman**

Adam reported the cell phone tower in Little Five Points has been installed. IPNA has an appeal that will be brought up in court in January. Please stay tuned for more information.

The neighbors at 158 Elizabeth St. are presenting a Type III application. They are putting on a new roof and want to make a change from asphalt to metal. They want to use metal for environmental reasons. They need a Type III because there is no proof that the roof had ever been metal. The existing material is grandfathered in. The immediate neighbors voted to support the metal roof. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to support the immediate neighbors’ decision for the Type III application.

**Rick Bizot** presented a Type III application for 839 Lake Ave. since **Adam Stillman** is the architect on the project. The neighbors want to add a rear addition to a single-story house. There are no changes to the historic characteristics of the house. There was unanimous neighbor support of the application. **Jonathan Miller** asked about potential UDC pitfalls with the design but Adam is confident he has addressed everything. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to support the immediate neighbors’ decision.

**TREASURER – VP Cameron Childress**

Motions were made, seconded and passed to approve the following budgeted expenses over \$1,000:

Public Safety .....	\$12,905.81
Beautification .....	\$1,203.79
Traffic Calming .....	\$9,015.00

Cameron reported he received really nice thank-you notes from Grady High School and Inman Middle School for our support.

He also reported that the neighbor-hood has approved up to \$5,000 to fight the cell phone tower. We have now spent that money. **Regina Brewer** and **Lisa Burnette** will talk more about this issue at next month’s meeting. We need to decide whether or not we should continue to fight this.

We have now negotiated a fee of \$2,700 a year to rent the space from the Church for the IPNA meetings. This is in line with recent years’ rent. This money is not in the budget so we will have to vote next month to approve paying last year and this year.

**Martha Porter Hall** from the Historic Fourth Ward Conservancy shared plans for a new 35 acre park that is part of the Beltline development. The first phase of construction, the building of a stormwater retention pond that will become the water feature in the park, is being funded by the Department of Watershed Management. The Conservancy has begun fundraising to hire a consultant to help them develop a long-term plan for the rest of the park. If you would like to help, please go to the website ([www.h4wpc.org](http://www.h4wpc.org)) to make a donation. They have asked for a \$1,000 donation from IPNA.

**SECRETARY – Stephanie McCaa**

Nothing to report.

**PRESIDENT – Lisa Burnette**

**Adam Stillman** reported for her. He reminded everyone that the dates of April 23-25, 2010, have been chosen for Festival. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the dates for Festival as well as the location of Festival in Inman Park.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Traffic Calming: Danny Feig-Sandoval** reported that the landscape plans are available for viewing. Also, work is now starting on the traffic calming bulb-outs on North Highland Ave. If you have any questions about traffic calming, please e-mail him.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Jonathan Miller** announced the At-lanta Beltline’s quarterly briefing will be on Monday, November 23, at the APS Auditorium. He also thanked IPNA for their generous donations to the Mary Lin Elementary School.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The next IPNA meeting is December 16 at 7:30 p.m.

There was a motion to adjourn. **Adam Stillman** adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

*By John Floyd*

Each year we have hosted and helped organize a family-friendly caroling party starting at 7:30 p.m. at 116 Elizabeth St. and going as far as our legs and the weather would allow.

Based on the school calendar we would like to do the caroling this year on Monday, December 21, with Tuesday the 22nd as a back up / rain date.

Please let me know if you are interested in participating and if those dates work for you. Everyone is welcome.

## *Condolences to*

Joyce Sayle, her family and friends, on the death of her Father,

### **DESMOND GROSS.**

Mr. Gross passed away quietly from pneumonia on November 24, 2009, at the age of 92.

In a small way, this may have been a blessing as recent hospital tests showed he had prostate cancer which had spread through his whole system. He will be missed by all who knew him.

### **RUBY LOVE WALTON APRIL 10, 1919 ~ OCTOBER 12, 2009**

Mrs. Walton had been battling health issues for quite some time and had been placed on hospice about five months ago. Her husband, **Ed Walton**, preceded her in 1968, and daughter, **Elsie L. Duffey** preceded her on December 19, 2000. She is survived by **Herbert and Carolyn Williams, Betty and Warren Thomas, Oscar and Montine Williams, Marie Lowry, Mary and Randy Gilmer, Raymond Williams, Walter Williams**, 23 grand children, 40 great grand children and 16 great great grand children.

She was our Momma, Granny, Grandmamma and AKA Hot Rod Granny because she used to drive a yellow Mach 1 Ford Mustang!

Mrs. Walton moved to Inman Park in 1960. Granny and Raymond were inseparable! He had always devoted his life to her and never regretted it. We, as a family, thank God for Raymond and his devotion in caring for his Mother and sacrificing his needs during her later years in life.

During her lifetime, she experienced two depressions. One when she was a young child and later, the crisis we are facing as a nation today. She did not have an easy life, but she had a fulfilling life.

She was an excellent seamstress and learned how to make clothes from flower sacks. In her later years she could whoop up just about anything you wanted on her magical sewing machine. Another fine talent was her cooking. She made the best home made collard greens, stewed tomatoes, mashed potatoes, and biscuits. OH my goodness! You were NEVER hungry at her house. She also canned her own vegetables. Back in her early years she would cook on a wood burning stove. Almost every night she would love to watch the Grand Ole Opry. She would sing to us and play her country music often. When she felt real energetic she would even do a jig for us.

She also had a green thumb and could make anything grow. On several occasions, she was awarded yard of the month from the Inman Park Community. She was best known for the beautiful roses all over her yard. She also grew the most magnificent snow ball tree. She would share clippings from the tree and her other plants with family and friends. That was just one of the ways she shared her love. Maybe that was why her middle name was "LOVE" because she always loved people. You could expect a big hug, kiss, and a beautiful smile from her.

While growing up, Ruby worked in the fields picking cotton to earn money to help provide for her family. She had also worked for Scripto, White Head Die Casting, and Sofie May Candy that used to be located on North Avenue (she would always bring home samples of their peanut brittle!) She was a lady with many talents. There was nothing she couldn't do when she put her mind to it.

She loved ALL her children, grand children, great grand children and great great grand children unconditionally. She would pray for us all and wanted nothing more for everyone to get along and be happy. She was a Godly woman and you always knew what she stood for. She was pure, kind hearted, and always tried her best to set a great example for her children, grand and great grand children.

*The following poem was written by a grandson of Ruby Love Walton::*

#### **IN MEMORY OF RUBY LOVE WALTON 04-10-1919 till 10-12-2009**

*Here I sit with a broken heart,  
Not knowing where to start.*

*Thank you for the gift of love,  
now you're sharing it up above.*

*She was one of a kind,  
Who always spoke her mind.*

*You always saw good in everyone,  
No matter what they've done.*

*She loved to work in the yard,*

*Even though the work was hard.*

*As I say my goodbyes, tears roll down my eyes.  
I know from your place in heaven you can see,  
Because you're telling God you have to watch me.*

*I LOVE AND WILL MISS YOU!!!*

*Love Ronnie*

## **A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO ZONING, ITS ACRONYMS AND PROCEDURES**

*By Amy Higgins, VP of Zoning*

Does zoning terminology seem like alphabet soup to you? Ever wonder how the Zoning Review Board differs from the Board of Zoning Adjustment? What's NPU-N's relationship to IPNA and how do our votes at IPNA meetings impact policy decisions? OK, so you may not have lost sleep pondering these questions but I think a quick outline of how zoning affects our neighborhood might be useful – especially for folks who are new to Inman Park or new to Atlanta. So, here it goes:

Zoning issues in the City of Atlanta are reviewed and ruled upon by either the **Zoning Review Board (ZRB)** or the **Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA)**. The Zoning Review Board consists of nine members appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The ZRB reviews property re-zonings and special use permits (such as those needed for festivals and parades). The Board of Zoning Adjustment consists of five members and reviews applications for variances and special exceptions to the City Zoning Ordinance. Both Boards take the recommendations of the relevant Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) and the Board of Planning (BOP) into consideration when making a judgment. Both also consider the testimony given at hearings.

Liquor license applications are reviewed and ruled upon by the **License Review Board (LRB)**. The LRB functions as part of the Atlanta Police Department and consists of five members. The LRB's recommendations for each liquor license application are forwarded to the Mayor for a final ruling. The LRB also conducts hearings on any charges brought against a licensee.

**Neighborhood Planning Units (NPUs)** are citizen advisory councils that review and provide feedback to the Mayor and City Council on zoning, land use, planning proposals, and liquor licenses. The NPU system came into being in 1974 to provide citizens a more active role in determining Atlanta's future development plans. There are 25 NPUs in Atlanta. Inman Park is part of NPU-N along with Candler Park, Lake Claire, Druid Hills, Poncey-Highland, Cabbagetown, and Reynoldstown. NPU-N also includes the L5P Business Association, the L5P Community Center and the Ponce Corridor East Business Association. NPU-N takes the recommendations of the relevant neighborhood association and/or business association into account when establishing a position on a particular issue or proposal.

**IPNA** (or, more specifically, the IPNA Zoning VP) conducts an immediate neighbors meeting whenever a business within the neighborhood applies for a liquor license or a property owner applies for a variance or rezoning of his/her property. When reviewing a liquor license application we pay special attention to issues of parking, live or outdoor music, security plans for establishments open after midnight, and proposed strategies for minimizing litter and vagrancy. "Immediate neighbors" are defined as those within a 300 foot radius of the property in question.

IPNA is invited to review zoning related applications in adjacent neighborhoods when the properties in question are within 200 feet of our boundary. We are also given an opportunity to provide feedback for projects proposed within the Beltline Overlay District which overlaps the Inman Park and Old Fourth Ward border. Questions, comments, clarifications? Please e-mail me at [ahigginsaia@gmail.com](mailto:ahigginsaia@gmail.com).

## **ACT GLOBALLY WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS!**

*by Mike Mongeon (reprint)*

A group of members and friends of Inman Park United Methodist Church are planning to go to Feira Nova, Brazil in March, 2010 to build a simple, decent and affordable home with a family in need. The Habitat for Humanity project is part of a larger effort to provide 100 homes for single female headed families in this small, rural, agricultural town near Recife, in Northeast Brazil. The mothers work at a manioc flour factory, where they receive pennies per kilo for grating the manioc by hand. An added challenge is that they also rent their current, unsanitary and some-times unsafe homes from the flour factory, so their take home pay is very small.

This is not a hand out, but a hand up. A Feira Nova family will purchase the home using a zero percent mortgage. Due to the sweat equity that the family will contribute to their home, as well as the cheap labor provided by the Inman Park group, their mortgage will be lower than their current rent. Besides affordability, the simple block homes will be dramatically healthier for the mothers and their children.

If you are interested in joining this trip, please contact Mike Mongeon at:

[mike\\_mongeon@yahoo.com](mailto:mike_mongeon@yahoo.com)

You can also support the trip by enjoying a delicious dinner before the December 16th IPNA meeting.

**Bring your friends for dinner Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  
at the Inman Park United Methodist Church as we prepare for our Spring Mission Trip to Brazil.  
We will be serving: Vegetarian & Turkey Lasagnas, Garlic Toast & Mixed Salad, Dessert  
We look forward to serving you! Adults \$10 Children \$5**

## NPU-N UPDATE DECEMBER 2009

By Jonathan R. Miller, Chair of NPU-N

Well, it's that time again. No, not the holidays! (Where is your head?) It is time for IPNA to appoint its representatives to NPU-N. **Megan Holder** has been IPNA's representative for the past year and even filled in as Secretary when needed. **David Laube** was her alternate and I filled in when neither was available. I think we did a pretty good job. (Was that self-serving? Yeah maybe a little.) And all of us wish to return in 2010. I hope you will allow us to represent you again in 2010.

We had no IPNA-specific items at NPU-N's November meeting. Alright, maybe one. NPU-N did vote to support the Inman Park Festival. I told the Board the Festival would be as cool or cooler than last year. It was a close call, but they bought it. Alright, it was never in doubt, but it is hard to make these articles in-teresting.

Generally Inman Park has very few items that come before NPU-N and I do not foresee any in December. In fact, it has been kind of quiet for us recently. Aside from the appeal of the building per-mit for the Moreland Ave. cell tower and some liquor licenses, the entire year has been pretty quiet. This means our historic district regulations are working. Many of NPU-N's agenda items are variances for second-story additions to houses already in the setback. Because of our compatibility rule, these types of projects do not have to go before the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) for a variance as they do in other neighborhoods in NPU-N. Instead, the UDC looks at design features and it only takes about half the time that a variance takes. So next time someone complains about the UDC process, please try to remember that it could be a lot worse.

### ***THEY'RE BAAAACK: INMAN PARK BELUGA SWIM TEAM***

*Submitted by: Alex Coffman*

We're ready for a second swim season of fun after our fantastic inaugural year. Once again this year we will compete within our team and all three meets will be at Inman Park Pool. Practices will begin tentatively May 19, 2010, starting at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday (not mandatory practices) and we are hoping for two morn-ing sessions starting June 1, 2010. Younger team members tentatively will start practice at 8:00 a.m. and will practice until 8.45 a.m. The older kids will swim from 8.45 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Meets will be June 10, 17, and 24. We will have an end-of- season trophy party on Saturday, June 26.

Our same coaching team will be back and are we are hoping to add a diving coach. More details will follow at a later date on the diving program. Your family does not have to be a member of the Inman Park Pool to participate in the swim team. Last year children from all different areas and from many different schools participated, including: Mary Lin, Inman Middle, Friends School, Children's School, Paideia, and Toomer. We hope to continue the tradition of a "community" team much in the spirit of the IPCP Co-op and Festival.

The fee for members of IPPA (Inman Park Pool Association) is \$125 for the first child and siblings are \$100 each. Non- members of IPPA pay \$175 per first child and \$100 for each additional sibling. The fee includes all coaching sessions, a team shirt, meets, and trophy.

Please talk to your friends and ask if their kids would like to swim for the Belugas! It is a laid-back but competitive environment; but we strive to make every child achieve success. Parent(s) of team members are required to volunteer for a shift or two during a meet.

Some of the jobs are (but, not limited to): timing, ribbon duty, announcing, kid wrangling, runners, and set- up and clean- up folks. The meets are fun and it is a great way to meet your neighbors. There will be an online sign-up white board, so the positions will be covered prior to the meets starting. Please check out your schedules as the meets start at 5:00 p.m. and end around 8:00 p.m.

Our team was fortunate to have generous sponsors last year and we are hoping to have more this year. The levels of sponsorship are as follows:

Gold: \$250+ (company name on T-shirt, team e-mails and website, and Face-book advertising).

Silver: \$150+ (team e-mails and website, and Facebook advertising).

Bronze: \$1-\$149 (team e-mails)

All levels are appreciated and thanked. If you are interested in being a sponsor please e-mail **Krista Baldwin** at: [krista.charlesray@gmail.com](mailto:krista.charlesray@gmail.com).

We are creating a team website (thanks **Tom Baldwin**) and will be posting team information and registration info on the site by the first of January. If you have questions about the team please feel free to e-mail me at [alexcoff@att.net](mailto:alexcoff@att.net). Our website address will be [www.inmanparkbelugas.com](http://www.inmanparkbelugas.com) and look up our profile on Facebook to see some photos from last year: Inman Park Swim Team – The Belugas.

### **DECEMBER PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS**

*By Bob Sandage, VP of Public Safety*

From time to time, those of you who are members of the Yahoo Group will get a message from **John Hines** regarding crime statistics. I have mentioned it during IPNA meetings, but would like to show my appreciation for John's work in print in *The Advocate*. John is now our Statistics Manager for the Public Safety group.

I would like to expand on John's recent Yahoo posts regarding recent crime statistics.

Beat 604 and 605 are Atlanta Police Department beats that include Inman Park, Poncey- Highlands, Candler Park, and possibly other areas. There is no data published by the APD that **isolates** Inman Park from the other neighborhoods in terms of stats. John goes to painstaking detail on a regular basis to sift through the data to extract crimes in Inman Park and put them into different categories of crime.

For the full year of 2008 and through October of 2009, total violent crime in areas of Beats 604/605 **outside** of Inman Park went from 1.8 violent crimes per month to 5.6 violent crimes per month – a 305% increase!! Violent crime **within** Inman Park went from 2.6 violent crimes per month to 2.7, an increase, but much, much less of an increase than our surrounding neighbors.

1. In 2008, 65% of the violent crime in Beats 604/605 was within Inman Park. Thus far in 2009, that number is down to 32%.About

16% of the violent crimes in Beats 604/605 result in injuries to the victim. What this means is that 10 fewer people have been injured in violent crime in Inman Park in 2009 than what would be expected from analysis and interpolation of the data from 2008.

- Of course I may be a little biased, but I can't find many other reasons for our improvement versus surrounding neighborhoods than our very own Inman Park Security Patrol. Think about this – for less than \$1 per day for those participating in Security Patrol, we are keeping 10 fewer people from sustaining bodily injury. Seems like a fair price to me! But, we still have less than 50% of the residents in our neighborhood contributing, so PLEASE ask your friends and neighbors if they belong, and if not, encourage them to do so. We have instituted a formal “Officer of the Month” program to recognize an IPSP Officer for outstanding performance during the month with a gift card given at each IPNA meeting. Our inaugural member for the month of November 2009 was Officer **Ari Bleifeld**. Officer Bleifeld was instrumental in the arrest of two sneaky taggers vandalizing the Inman Park Pool on the night of November 1. Big kudos and thanks to Officer Bleifeld!

If you will be traveling for the holidays, PLEASE go to [www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org) click on the Public Safety link and fill out the Vacation Request Form. The requests are not automatically answered via e-mail, but rest assured the Inman Park Security Patrol will be physically checking all your doors and windows for any signs of intrusion at least once per shift.

Lastly, we are in the final stages of organizing the Inman Park Santa's Safety 5K Run/Walk to be held on Sunday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m.. By the time you receive this issue of *The Advocate*, the race will have just occurred, but we will be sure to give you a final recap in next month's edition. Stay safe during the holidays!

<b>INMAN PARK SECURITY PATROL</b> <b>NOVEMBER 2009 ACTIVITY REPORT</b> <i>By Sgt. Brent Schierbaum</i>					
Directed Patrols	325	Assistance to Zone 6 Officer	2	Parking Violation	1
Drop Ins/Park and Walks	180	Assistance to Zone 5 Officer	1	Sidewalk / Street Obstruction	1
Suspicious Persons	29	Damage to Property	1	Field Interviews	4
Residential Alarms	15	Burglar In House	1	Association Member Contacts	12
Suspicious Vehicles	5	Car Break-In in Progress	1	<b>ARRESTS</b>	
Noise Complaint	3	Person Threatening Suicide	1	Carrying a Concealed Weapon / Felon in Possession of Firearm	1
Reckless Driver	2	Lost Animal	1	Disorderly Under the Influence	1
Information for Police	2	Disturbance	1	Defacing Property	2
Open Door / Window	2	Intoxicated Person	1	Burglary	1
Burglary	2	Abandoned Vehicle	1	Inman Park Patrol also captured a burglary suspect wanted by Zone 5 Officers. IPP apprehended subject - Zone 5 officially arrested him.	
Theft	2	Prowler	1		

## INMAN PARK CRIME REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2009

By Greg Scott

If you are thinking of moving to Inman Park and are reading this report, don't despair... we are an active and pro-active neighborhood and a wonderful place to live. We take our safety seriously and work in partnership with neighbors and the police to keep our neighborhood safe. If you already live in this great place, be aware and use this information to change your behavior so we can all be safe.

This month's report is short—partly because the number of crimes are down, partly because the last report of the month is delayed due to the holiday. However, we did have one robbery on the report and unfortunately, it looks like the Flat Screen Thieves are continuing to victimize our bars and restaurants.

The main thing that sticks out in this month's report is the number of gym bags taken from autos after the windows have been smashed. You would think a thief would have no use for your dirty, stinky gym clothes, but they don't know what's in the bag when they break in – they just see a bag with potential valuables. Just last night, in front of my house, my neighbor's car was broken into and guess what was taken? A gym bag and clothes. The bottom line is – **don't leave anything in your car – period**. You might not care if they steal your leg warmers and unitards, but you will care when you have to spend a couple hundred bucks to have your window replaced. Studies have shown very few crack-heads have X-ray vision and are rarely discerning when it comes to stealing your stuff. Crimefighter of the Month goes to the young lady whose car was missing and through expert detective work on her own was able to locate and recover the car the next day. Nice work!

Thanks to all of those who continue to support the Security Patrol – it is making a difference!

DATE	TIME	CRIME	BLOCK LOCATION	NOTEWORTHY
10/31	10:00 p.m.	Auto Theft	300 Block North Highland Ave.	Valet accidentally gave victim's vehicle to the suspect.
11/2	2:20 a.m.	Burglary	900 Block Bernina Ave.	Restaurant window smashed. Stolen: cash register with \$200 in it.
11/3	9:00 p.m.	Robbery	1000 Block Dekalb Ave.	2 suspects approached victim from behind and produced a gray handgun. Wallet and cell phone were taken before suspects fled in an unknown vehicle.
11/7	Overnight	Theft from Auto	1100 Block Euclid Ave.	Passenger side sliding window pried open. Stolen: GPS and clothing.
11/7-11/8	One day period	Theft from four Automobiles	1100 Block Dekalb Ave.	4 vehicles at auto repair shop were either damaged or broken into. Stolen: catalytic converter, in-dash stereo, battery, and license plate.
11/7-11/8	Overnight	Theft from Auto	700 Block Lake Ave.	Rear passenger window smashed. Stolen: gym bag and clothing.
11/8	6:20 p.m.-6:50 p.m.	Theft from Auto	1100 Block Colquitt Ave.	Rear passenger window smashed. Stolen: 3 digital cameras, 4 lenses, sunglasses, and Kindle.
11/10	Overnight	Theft from Auto	300 Block Dekalb Ave.	Rear passenger window smashed. Stolen: gym bag and clothing.
11/10	2:00 a.m. – 3:00 a.m.	Auto Theft	1000 Block Washita Ave.	Victim fell asleep at a house party and awoke to find car keys and car missing.
11/14	Overnight	Vehicle Theft	700 Block Dekalb Ave.	Victim chained motorcycle to a light pole after it broke down. Upon returning, the bike was gone.
11/15-11/16	Overnight	Auto Theft and recovery	400 Block North Highland Ave.	Victim reported car stolen when she couldn't find it. Upon returning the next day it was found where she left it. Case closed.
11/18	5:00 a.m.	Burglary	400 Block North Highland Ave.	Window of bar smashed. Stolen: 42" TV.
11/19	12:15 p.m.	Burglary	400 Block North Highland Ave.	Victim's ex-boyfriend kicked in apartment door, he then punched her in the stomach and stole clothing and \$100 cash.
11/19-11/20	Overnight	Theft from Auto	900 Block Euclid Ave.	Passenger side window smashed. Stolen: GPS.
11/20	2:00 p.m.	Theft from Auto	400 Block Seminole Ave.	Rear Passenger side window smashed. Stolen: gym bag with clothing.

To receive more in-depth crime reports for the whole of Zone 6, subscribe to the Inman Park Yahoo! Group or the inmanpark.org mailing list:

-To subscribe to the Yahoo! Group, go to [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com), click on "Groups" and type "inmanparkga" in the "search groups box". After you click on the group URL just click on "join this group" and follow the instructions.

-To subscribe to the inmanpark.org mailing list, go to [www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org) and click on "Subscribe". Fill out the form and click on "subscribe".

## ATLANTA URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION (AUDC) UPDATE

*By Adam Stillman, Vice-President for Historic Preservation*

Please note: If you wish to do any construction work (beyond routine maintenance) on the exterior or site of a home or building in the Inman Park Historic District, you must contact AUDC to begin their review/approval process. Once a project is submitted to AUDC, please contact me at [historic.preservation@inmanpark.org](mailto:historic.preservation@inmanpark.org) so that neighborhood meetings can be set up. Thanks!

### Recent AUDC Actions on Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness (CoAs):

- 846 Virgil St. - Application for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness to allow the removal and replacement of front porch – approved with conditions.

### Applications Scheduled for AUDC:

December 9:

- **158 Elizabeth St.** – Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness to allow installation of new roof.
- **839 Lake Ave.** – Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness to allow rear addition and other renovations.
- **Freedom Park (intersection of Hurt Ave. and Euclid Ave.)** - Application for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness to allow site work (community garden).
- **500 Englewood Ave. (Boulevard Crossing Park)** - Review and Comment (RC-09-216) for temporary site work of ball fields.

### Applications Scheduled for IPNA:

- None

## REMINDER FOR INMAN PARK DINERS 2010

*By Karin Mebius*

Our Inman Diners are starting up again this January, and we are looking forward to it very much!  
Here's how Inman Park Diners works:



After people sign up, they are divided into groups of between 10 and 12 people. Each group gets together for dinner five times over the course of the calendar year; once every two months, starting in March. The more people who participate, the more groups will be formed. From year to year we will mix up the groups. This is a great way to get to know more neighbors, and because you meet several times over dinner, you get to know each other pretty well.

I will host a **Kick-off Party on January 30, 2010**, for all participants and to announce the makeup of each group. At that time the group members decide who will host which dinner and other details. If you are interested or if you'd like to know more, please contact me.

My e-mail address is: [karinmebius@gmail.com](mailto:karinmebius@gmail.com).

We live at 860 Euclid Ave. Our phone number is 404-584-0355.

I'd love to hear from you!

## 2009 BOOK CLUB CALENDAR

The Book Club meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

All meetings are at 7:00 p.m. Bring a covered dish

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!

## 2010

### JANUARY 27

*The Space Between Us* by **Thrity Umrigar**

Hosted by **Oreon Mann**

877 Edgewood Ave.

### FEBRUARY 24

*The Help* by **Kathryn Stockett**

Hosted by **Naomi Grisham**

462 North Highland Ave. Unit #1.

### MARCH 24

*Bound South* by **Susan Rebecca White**

(Inman Park Author who will  
be at the Book Club)

Hosted by **Jan Keith**

889 Edgewood Ave.

### APRIL

### NO BOOK CLUB VOLUNTEER FOR FESTIVAL

### MAY 26

*There's No Me Without You* By **Melissa Fay Greene**

Hosted by **Tara Burdeslaw**

235 Pearl St. (Cabbagetown)

### JUNE 23

*Loving Frank* By **Nancy Horan**

Hosted by **Marnie McMurry**

466 North Highland Ave. Unit 1

**For Information: 404-688-7330**

## WORMS IN MY KITCHEN OR HOW I LEARNED TO LOVE COMPOST

*By Eakin Scott*

The Inman Park Community Garden is sponsoring its first educational event on Saturday, January 9, 2010. **Trecia Neal** from the Fernbank Science Center will teach us the many ways that composting can be incorporated into our homes and gardens. Composting reduces the load on landfills and improves the soil. Trecia will show us how to get started.

The seminar is free and open to all. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 9, 2010, at the Fernbank Science Center located at 156 Heaton Park Dr., Atlanta. Trecia's presentation will include a tour of the composting demonstration plots at the science center. Many examples of composting techniques both small and large will be on display.

The Inman Park Community Garden is committed to sustainable food production and land stewardship. Education is a part of this goal. Please join us on Saturday, January 9. RSVP is requested but not required. Please RSVP call 404-584-7557 or e-mail: [seakin@mindspring.com](mailto:seakin@mindspring.com).

# LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS TEAM UP AGAINST IVY, PRIVET FOR CASH

By Kelly Cheek

On November 7, teams from local organizations and schools came out to compete for prize money as part of an ongoing effort to rid local parks of invasive plants and debris. By the end of the second annual Park Renewal Day, hosted by Renewal Design-Build, the DeKalb County Parks Department and City of Decatur, competitors at Dearborn Park, were weary from pulling up ivy and privet, but had a real sense of accomplishment and community.

Decatur Mayor **Bill Floyd** and DeKalb County COO **Keith Barker** assisted in the

scoring of the teams' plots. The prize money, donated by Renewal Design-Build, was given to the five highest-scoring teams. The grand prize of \$1,000 went to the Midway Woods Neighborhood Association - appropriately named "Ivy League" - while two teams from Decatur High School students won 4th and 5th places. Groups from Hands On Atlanta and All Souls Fellowship also took home top prizes. A celebration of food and music from a local Decatur band, The Grits, followed the cleanup.

The success of this public/private initiative has incited talks of expanding the event into other areas of Atlanta and to other parks. "In just a few hours, we saved over 100 old growth trees from being strangled by invasive plant species, and prize money was put back into the community," says Renewal CEO and Park Renewal Day co-founder, **Peter Michelson**. "It's amazing what can happen when you give people an incentive."

And, the proof is in the park. "It's great to see what the community's efforts have brought to Dearborn Park," says Mayor Bill Floyd. "If you haven't walked through, do so."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS				
COUNTDOWN TO FESTIVAL FROM DECEMBER 15, 2009, TO APRIL 24, 2009				130 DAYS
DATE	DAY/TIME	EVENT	Pg	LOCATION/PHONE NUMBER
Dec. 16	Wed. 7:30 p.m.	IPNA Meeting		1015 Edgewood Ave. 404-581-0576
Dec. 21	Mon. 7:30 p.m.	Christmas Caroling	5	116 Elizabeth St. 404-798-1939
		WINTER BEGINS		
Dec. 24	Thurs.	CHRISTMAS EVE		
Dec. 25	Fri.	CHRISTMAS DAY		
Dec. 26	Sat.	KWANZA BEGINS		
Dec. 31	Thurs.	NEW YEAR'S EVE		
Jan. 01	Fri. 10:00 p.m.	ADVOCATOR DEADLINE		e-mail: theadvocator@bellsouth.net
		NEW YEAR'S DAY		
Jan. 02	Sat. 9:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.	Open House at The Atlanta School		1015 Edgewood Ave.
Jan. 09	Sat. 9:00 a.m.	Inman Park Community Garden Meeting	16	156 Heaton Road (Fernbank Science Center)
Jan. 10	ADVANCE NOTICE: FESTIVAL MEETING - JANUARY 12, 2010 - 7:30 P.M. AT THE TROLLEY BARN			

"The *Advocator*" is the newsletter of the Inman Park Neighborhood Association, Inc. (IPNA). In addition to the reports by the IPNA Board of Directors, Officers, and Committee Chairs, the *Advocator* publishes letters to the editor, press releases, articles deemed of interest to the community, and paid advertising. Publishing of display advertisement/classified ads, articles, letters, or notices, does not constitute an endorsement by IPNA, its Board of Directors, and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff. The content and opinions of a published article or letter represent the opinions of the author and not the opinion of IPNA, its Board of Directors, and/or the *Advocator* and the *Advocator* staff unless it is expressly stated. IPNA reserves the right to edit all items submitted for publication and to reject any material or ads submitted for publication. Material submitted anonymously, including Press Releases, will not be published.

## DECEMBER AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introduction of Newcomers
- II. Minutes of Last Meeting
- III. Announcements
- IV. Police Officers' Reports
- V. Elected Officials' Reports
- VI. IPNA Officers' Reports:
  - A. President:
    - 1. Approval of NPU Representative for IPNA  
Megan Holder:
      - a. First alternative: David Laube
      - b. Second alternative: Jonathan Miller
  - B. Planning
  - C. Zoning:
    - 1. NPU Report
  - D. Public Safety
  - E. Historic Preservation
  - F. Treasurer:
    - 1. Report of Regular Expenditures.
    - 2. Approval of unbudgeted disbursement of rent for IPUMC for 2008 and 2009.
    - 3. Discussion of legal fees for cell phone tower appeal - approval of allocation of further funds from Legal Reserve fund.
  - G. Secretary
- VII. Committee Reports
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Old Business
- X. Adjournment