

# The Inman Park Advocator

*Atlanta's Small Town Downtown News*



Vol. 39 Issue 6 • theadvocator@bellsouth.net • www.inmanpark.org  
 Newsletter of Inman Park Neighborhood Association • 245 North Highland Ave., N.E. • STE. 230-401 • Atlanta, GA 30307

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*By Regina Brewer*

### IPNA Is Going to the Wrecking Bar!

We have a big treat for the folks who attend the June and July IPNA Meeting. We are holding it at the Wrecking Bar! The Inman Park United Methodist Church is holding children's activities in the basement fellowship hall in the evenings during June and July, so we thought it would be a good time to go on a "road trip." So, come to the downstairs of the Wrecking Bar located at 292 Moreland Avenue at 7:30 p.m. on June 15. And yes, you will be able to purchase adult beverages. In keeping with my summer meeting traditions, the meetings will end promptly at 8:30 p.m. Sadly, no childcare will be available for the June meeting but we are working on it for the July meeting. We'll keep you posted on that.

See you in June!

## FESTIVAL

*By Pat Westrick*

How about a huge round of applause for:

- Nick Franz, for chairing Festival for two wonderful years,
- All our Inman Park neighbors (and some from other neighborhoods, too) for again volunteering tirelessly not only in planning Festival, but also stepping up to do all the gazillions of jobs that have to be done to make it run smoothly that weekend,
- And finally, to Thom Abelew and Melissa Miller for agreeing to chair the 2012 Festival!

Planning meetings will begin again soon (usually in September,) so watch this space for more information about how you can be involved. There are plenty of committees that need help throughout the year, and you don't have to be an "insider" to join - just willing to do your part. It's a great way to get to know the neighbors, and the money we raise helps to make Inman Park better and better. And once again: thank you, thank you, thank you!!

## HOUSE TOUR

I know it's a little early to begin talking about the 2012 Festival, but the House Tour committee is one whose planning must take place l-o-n-g before the first meeting.

If you are thinking about putting your house on tour, let us know. We would like to focus on the ALTA - DEGRESS - AUSTIN area next year, but certainly not limit the tour to those streets. If you have questions about just what is involved, call or email Jan Keith or me, and we can discuss it with you.

Jan and I have a wonderful committee - but if you'd like to help, let us know. We welcome more hands, and we certainly welcome more ideas!

Jan Keith: 404-688-7330,  
 kingkeith@mindspring.com  
 Pat Westrick: 404-388-6466,  
 patwestrick@realtor.com

## PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS

*By Greg Scott, VP for Public Safety*

After a somewhat slow start, perhaps due to Festival being so late this year, Security Patrol memberships and renewals are picking up steam. If you have signed up or renewed, thank you and please let me know if you did not receive the Welcome Letter that was sent out via e-mail (many thanks to Kathleen Busko for her work on this). A special "thank you!" goes out to those that opted to become Super Boosters. If you still need to sign up, go to [www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org) and you can take care of it online. In these times of tight budgets, if it is easier for you to pay quarterly or semi-annually, just let us know and we can work it out. Every little bit helps, and every dollar gets us closer to 24/7 coverage.

We can't disclose all of the details yet, but we are working on some exciting fundraising events for the Patrol this year, spearheaded by Karen Heim, fresh off of her most recent success with the Festival Parade. Suffice it to say that if everything goes according to plan, the streets of Inman Park will be filled with thirsty runners in search of frosty refreshment in the early Fall.

Thom Abelew has done a great job with the Herculean task of getting yard signs ordered and delivered. We do ask that you only request a new yard sign if the one you have is in really bad shape and if you have one of the newer metal signs and the numbers are showing signs of peeling, please let us know as we can have them repaired. If you requested a sign when you signed up and have not received it yet, please let me know (contact info below). If you requested a sign and didn't sign up (yes, several did just that)...keep waiting and hoping. Please note that only Bronze Level members and above get yard signs, and HOAs that pay as a group for Bronze level will get one sign for the entrance to their community. If you have a yard sign but have not signed up or made a donation this year, go to:

[www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org)

to rectify this obvious oversight.

(Public Safety, continued below)

**WE NEED YOUR HELP  
ON THE  
FOURTH OF JULY  
PICNIC!**

Help is needed for  
Set-Up  
Food Pick-Up  
Beverage/Ice Pick-Up  
Clean-Up

Call or e-mail  
**CARRINGTON MOORE**  
678-641-7923  
[carringtonmoore@gmail.com](mailto:carringtonmoore@gmail.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	DAY/TIME	EVENT	Pg.	LOCATION/PHONE NUMBER
June 15	Wed. 7:30 PM	IPNA MEETING		Wrecking Bar, 292 Moreland Avenue
June 16	Thurs.			
June 17	Fri.			
June 18	Sat.			
June 19	Sun.			
June 20	Mon.			
June 21	Tues.			
June 22	Wed. 7:00 PM	Book Club, <i>What is the What</i>	13	548 Wimbledon Rd. (Piedmont Heights)
June 23	Thurs. 7:00 PM	NPU-N Meeting		L5P Community Center, 1083 Austin Ave.
June 24	Fri. 7:30 PM	Porch Party	13	1084 Colquitt Avenue
June 25	Sat.			
June 26	Sun.			
June 27	Mon. 7:00 PM	IPNA Board Meeting		Wrecking Bar, 292 Moreland Ave.
June 28	Tues.			
June 29	Wed.			
June 30	Thurs.			
July 1	Fri. 10:00 PM	<i>ADVOCATOR</i> Deadline		theadvocator@bellsouth.net
July 2	Sat.			
July 3	Sun.			
July 4	Mon. 4:00 PM -	<b>FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC</b>	3	Springvale Park
July 5	Tues.			
July 6	Wed.			
July 7	Thurs.			
July 8	Fri.			
July 9	Sat.			
July 10	Sun.			
July 11	Mon.			
July 12	Tues.			
July 13	Wed.			
July 14	Thurs.			
July 15	Fri.			
July 16	Sat.			
July 17	Sun.			

“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.



**INMAN PARK  
CELEBRATES  
INDEPENDENCE DAY  
WITH A  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
PICNIC!**

**COME ONE, COME ALL,**

**BIG** AND SMALL!

**SPRINGVALE PARK \***

**FROM 4:00 P.M.**

**'TIL DARK (8 P.M.)**

**MONDAY, JULY 4, 2011**

Pulled BBQ chicken, Fried Chicken  
and BBQ Tofu will be provided,  
as well as cold soft drinks and "other" beverages.

**PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE, SOMETHING TO SIT ON,  
AND YOUR PATRIOTIC SPIRIT!**

Compete against your neighbors for big prizes in an old-fashioned sack race, three-legged race, and water balloon toss!  
KIDDIES, Check out the "Space Shuttle!"

\* Rain location will be the Trolley Barn. A notice will be sent out on the Yahoo Group by 2 P.M. with the actual location.

# MINUTES OF THE MAY 18, 2011 IPNA MEETING

By Stephanie McCaa, Acting Secretary

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEWCOMERS

Regina Brewer welcomed the group and asked any newcomers to introduce themselves and the following did: Jessica Gerstenberger, owner of the new full-service hair salon, Star Salon, on Elizabeth Street, next to City Issue; A.J. Chong, owner of the soon-to-be-open OMG tacos on Euclid Avenue; Chris Dosenberger from Montag Circle; Lauren Justice (wife of Ward Bradshaw) from Ashland Ave.; Ebony Gaston, new agent for Park's Edge; Stephen Valrie, board member of the Old Fourth Ward Conservancy and Vice Chair of Intown Academy. (Intown Academy is a charter school that accepts all children from APS, grades K-7. For more information go to [www.intownacademy.org](http://www.intownacademy.org).)

## MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made, seconded and carried.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oreon Mann announced this month's book club will be Wednesday, May 25 at 112 First Avenue, Kirkwood. There are two books this month: Three Cups of Tea and Stones into Schools both by Greg Mortenson.

Pat Westrick announced this month's porch party will be hosted by Chuck Reese at 242 Elizabeth Street, May 27 at 7:30 p.m. Please bring a covered dish to share and your favorite drink.

Carolyn McLaughlin announced the Atlanta Preservation Society will have a book signing for Images of America: Historic Grant Park, Saturday, May 21 at 4 p.m. 327 St. Paul Avenue.

Matt Nelson announced Inman Park United Methodist Church is still collecting donations for tornado and (now) flood victims.

## POLICE OFFICERS' REPORTS

Officer Chaffee filled in for Lt. Brent Schierbaum, Zone 6 precinct and Captain of the Inman Park Patrol, who was out serving warrants on graffiti offenders. He reported there were five thefts from cars last month. There were also four pedestrian robberies.

- On May 8, in the 1000 block of Colquitt, a black male (late 20s, early 30s with dreadlocks) pulled a handgun on a pedestrian and demanded his wallet.

- May 14, on North Highland at Washita, a man with a handgun demanded the victim's wallet at gunpoint and then fled in a dark-colored vehicle. A neighbor had already called 911 regarding that suspicious vehicle so they have a good description of the vehicle.
- On May 14, near the MARTA station, a victim was approached by a perpetrator with a knife.
- On April 27, Officer Ari Bleifeld was working for IPP when he was flagged down at 448 Moreland. Four victims had been robbed by black males with a handgun. There ensued a chase through Inman Park resulting in the perpetrators firing at the officers. The police did not apprehend them, but one of the perps returned later to look for his lost handgun. The homeowner called 911, but the police were not able to apprehend him. They were able to recover the handgun and will be doing ballistics testing to determine if it is connected to any outstanding crimes.

Officer Chaffee reminded people to refrain from leaving items in the car that might be valuable. He also emphasized calling 911 if you see anything suspicious.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORT

Jay Tribby, chief of staff for City Councilman Kwanza Hall, reported that the City Council has decided to accept revised recommendations regarding the controversial street naming commissions. Harris Street will be renamed Portman Blvd. Jay explained that even though there was lots of pressure from downtown and historic preservation organizations, they were not able to stop the Portman changing because too many promises had been made to back down on this renaming. The ironic part is that there already exists funding for other avenues to honor people, but the commissions come in with the idea of street renaming and won't back down.

Kwanza is creating a cultural heritage planning process for District 2 to help address this issue. It will not have the force of law but, like other master planning processes, will be able to provide some guidelines on what other honoring opportunities are available to stop the street renaming.

It is budget season for the City Council. Go to [www.atlantaga.gov](http://www.atlantaga.gov) to see the budget on-line. There is a dramatic proposal to cut arts funding. The county and City have a long history of funding but not the state. The current administration is proposing a 50% cut in what is allocated to the arts. Please call or email your council members to let them know how you feel about the budget.

The mayor has proposed changes to the City's pension. The City Council has decided not to fold this into the budget conversation. They want to table it for a while to ensure council members are as knowledgeable as possible about this complicated issue.

Carolyn McLaughlin asked why was Kwanza not at the street renaming vote. Jay explained that he's in the Middle East on a travel seminar coordinated by Emory University. Carolyn also said that there already is legislation on the books that prohibits street naming. Jay confirmed this but said it's always ignored. Also, he added it came to light that the people on the renaming commissions were on the payroll of the people who were being honored. Kwanza will be introducing a piece of legislation that makes this illegal. FYI, the commissions pay the costs for the City to change street signs etc. However, they do not cover the costs for the businesses affected to change letterhead etc.

## IPNA OFFICERS' REPORTS

### PRESIDENT: Regina Brewer

Regina Brewer announced that IPNA will be voting on the by-law revisions. Some changes were made based on comments sent to Diane Floyd and based on comments from last month's meeting. She asked for any additional comments.

Richard Westrick voiced his concern about Article 3 (Financials), paragraph A3: "With the exception of Festival Committee, all funds raised for IPNA or a Committee (Donor Restricted Funds) must be given to the Treasurer to deposit in the IPNA checking account and to have them available for disbursement." When the Treewatch committee solicits funds they do so through Friends of Inman Park (FOIP) because it's tax deductible. Richard wants to add the following verbiage: "unless other arrangements have been made with the Board."

Pat Westrick had a concern regarding Article 3, paragraph C2: "Unbudgeted

expenses of five thousand dollars (\$5000) or less can be discussed and voted on at one regular monthly meeting or disbursed with the written approval of four (4) Board Members.” She would like to add the following verbiage: “The item must be on the published agenda and cannot be added to the agenda at the meeting through a vote.”

A motion to accept all the proposed changes to the by-laws was made, seconded and carried.

A motion to accept the proposed raise in membership dues from \$5 to \$10, the elimination of a senior fee and the retention of first-year-free policy was made, seconded and carried.

Fred Yalouris, Director of Design for The Beltline, gave an update on the status of the project. The most impactful next stage of the design will be the eastside trail. It is a 14 ft.- wide concrete multi-use trail that runs from DeKalb Ave. to Monroe and 10th Street for a distance of 2 ½ miles. Some highlights include:

- A nice rest spot at Airline Street
- Rebuilding of Edgewood bridge and creation of new green space
- Creating a safe pedestrian crossing at Irwin
- Creating a park space and a connection to Freedom Park Path at the end of Elizabeth Street just before Freedom Parkway
- Building a skate park with multi-use field (six-eight acres of new parkland) and playground. This will be the first formal skate park in Atlanta. June 11 is the grand opening of the park.
- Building a new pedestrian bridge at Ralph McGill
- Constructing an eight-acre basin with a four-and-one-half- acre pond. Phase I has a grand opening June 18. Phase II is still under construction.
- Completion of another trailhead at 10th Street and Monroe

A question was raised about how the construction of the rail will impact the work already completed. Fred said that they anticipate only having to rip up the path in a couple of places. In fact, many of the connectivity points will not be completed until the rail is put in.

Pat Westrick asked if the Edgewood bridge construction can begin after next year’s IP Festival. Fred feels pretty confident that will be the case. He also said he currently discourages people from walking this section of the Beltline because it is a construction site right now. He con-

cluded by saying the Beltline design is at 25% completion to allow flexibility as the project moves forward. They are always looking for ways to be innovative, cost-effective and environmentally sensitive. Last year the Beltline hosted Atlanta’s largest public art project, Art on the Beltline, and they will be doing this again this year. There will also be a dining-out fundraiser in June at restaurants along the Beltline where 10% of proceeds benefit the project.

Regina Brewer encouraged everyone to “like” the Beltline on their Facebook page so that they can get regular updates on Beltline activity.

#### **PLANNING: V.P. David Laube**

David Laube said there is nothing new to report on traffic calming. They are still waiting to hear from the City. He said the 2010 census project data is coming out. The city of Atlanta only gained a little over 3000 people. Some areas saw significant growth; however that was counter-balanced by an increase in the number of vacant properties. Inman Park is definitely experiencing strong growth with approximately 1000 new households (he estimates 900 new multifamily units in the neighborhood). David is going to continue tracking this growth to provide some data for master planning purposes. Regina Brewer added that this information is crucial to understand because it could change congressional districting.

#### **NPU-N: Jonathan Miller for Megan Holder**

Jonathan reported the update to NPU-N’s priorities for the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) has been submitted as part of a periodic Update. Thanks were expressed to Megan and David Laube for convening a committee to update IPNA’s section. The CDP Update will be sent to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for comments and must be approved by City Council in October. He will post this information for everyone to access. He also said the IPNA and NPU will vote to reaffirm NPU-N’s by-laws next month. There are no changes proposed to NPU-N’s by-laws. The next NPU meeting is Thursday, May 26 at the Little Five Points Community Center. All are welcome to attend.

#### **Park’s Edge Update**

Representatives from the restaurant were present with a new agent to present their case for a vote on supporting the renewal of their liquor license. A motion was needed to add them to the agenda. A

motion to add them to the agenda was made, seconded and did not carry.

#### **ZONING: V.P. Amy Higgins**

Amy Higgins reported that representatives from a new restaurant, Indigo, would like to present their restaurant concept. This is purely a courtesy as their restaurant is not in our zone but within 200 feet of our boundary. A motion to add them to the agenda for a review and comment only was made, seconded and carried.

Hakim Hilliard introduced Mr. Edwards who will be opening the bar/lounge Indigo at 619 Edgewood Ave. (above Miso). Mr. Edwards explained that the hours will be 6pm-2:30am; there will be no food except a dessert station; and there will be live entertainment but no dancing. Their parking requirements have been fulfilled. They have received the support of the NPU Executive Committee and the OFW neighborhood. Jonathan Miller asked him about his background. He explained that he is an accountant by education but ran nightclubs in New Orleans. The establishment will open in late June 2011. A motion to support the OFW’s vote and support was made, seconded and carried.

A.J. Chong presented his plans for OMG Taco on 1126 Euclid. The restaurant will be dine-in and carry-out. Amy Higgins reported there were concerns about parking at the immediate neighbors’ meeting, but those concerns had been addressed. The immediate neighbors voted unanimously to support the liquor license with the stipulation that there are three designated parking spaces in the lease. A.J. presented a copy of the lease with the parking spaces. They have a temporary license now and are hoping to open in early June. A motion to support the immediate neighbors’ support of the restaurant’s liquor license application was made, seconded and carried.

Regina Brewer gave an update on the Inman Village townhomes. There are new owners now (they are developers), and they have indicated they want to take away the park space currently used as an informal dog park and convert that space into more townhomes. Regina is already in contact with these people and reassured the meeting attendees that the approval process to allow this type of development is long and arduous.

David Eldridge renewed discussion on the earlier vote regarding Park’s Edge. He said that by not allowing them to present, IPNA’s concerns about the res-

restaurant will not be presented when they go before the Liquor Review Board (LRB). Megan Holder said NPU could ask for a deferral but the LRB might not really care that IPNA did not have opportunity to voice concerns. Jonathan Miller said he thinks they should be added to the agenda so our concerns are a matter of public record. The question was asked as to whether a vote would bolster the neighborhood position. Regina Brewer said she felt it would clarify our position.

Amy Higgins was asked what happened at the most recent immediate neighbors' meeting. Live music and valet parking were the big concerns. Apparently, the new application says there will be no live music. The question remains as to whether or not they will abide by the rules in the application. The vote at the meeting of 8 neighbors was: 3 supported with stipulation that valet be resolved; 4 opposed; and 1 abstained.

The question was raised as to whether or not a new agent erases all previous sins of the establishment. Amy Higgins said she is not sure but believes that the sins of the business go with the agent. A comment was made that apparently a property owner also can be penalized for sins of tenant. Tom Berry was very concerned and related how an ambulance they had called to their house was not able to get through and how drunken patrons of Park's Edge had climbed on the roof of their home.

A motion to add Park's Edge request for a presentation and vote for their liquor license application was made, seconded and carried. Hakim Hilliard introduced Ebony Gaston, the new agent, who previously had been working in the Park's Edge kitchen. He also introduced Zack Wojohn with Executive Parking Systems. Zack said his company will be able to park 100 cars over the course of the evening all in the parking lot, and there will be no parking on city streets. He will also keep the area painted and clean; build an employee smoking area; stop guests from using the alley and front steps; provide them with a person to handle all complaints; and give the residents on Bernina priority. Hakim Hilliard reinforced that they want to change the mindset of the restaurant. Regina Brewer asked who will be arrested if they violate anything. Hakim Hilliard said anyone on the site could be arrested. Tom Berry said he heard Richard Wadlington lie about three different issues at the most recent immediate neighbors' meeting so why should he believe that anything will change?

Jorge Pacheco said that they are beginning to make changes. They will not offer unlimited drink specials anymore.

A motion was made to support the immediate neighbors' vote against liquor license renewal for the following reasons: previous history; arrest citations; moral character; and ignoring cease and desist from law enforcement. The motion was seconded and carried with the stipulation that if the LRB does approve the liquor license against IPNA's wishes, the following conditions must be met: no valet, no live music, no smoking or congregating in the alley, no bottomless drink specials.

The LRB will meet June 14. Information confirming the meeting will be sent out via the Yahoo group, emails and leaflets to ensure high neighborhood attendance at the meeting.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION: V.P. Adam Stillman**

Adam Stillman reported that both applications have been postponed until next month.

**PUBLIC SAFETY: V.P. Bob Sandage**

Bob Sandage gave an update on Security Patrol memberships noting that the number had increased from 137 to 200 in about two weeks. There is a trend towards the silver and gold memberships rather than the bronze which is good.

There is still going to be an emphasis on managed properties and special events. Greg Scott will be heading this up with the help of Karen Heim.

Richard Shapiro asked if the APS was increasing patrols because of the recent robberies. Bob Sandage said he did not know but noted IPP has been altering its routes to keep ahead of this increase in crime.

**TREASURER: Cameron Childress**

Cameron Childress reviewed the budgeted items that were paid.

Advocator.....	3,574.80
(two months)	
Public Safety.....	14,477.76
Springvale Park.....	3,000.00
(three months)	
Park Pride.....	7,500.00
(Springvale Park Visioning Plan)	
Beautification.....	5,362.00
(includes new signs and pre-festival cleanup)	
Cheers.....	69.98
Legal.....	3,285.00
(Wisteria block rezoning)	
Babysitting.....	150.00
(3 IPNA meetings)	

Bank Fees.....	25.00
(minimum balance)	
Tax Preparation.....	417.90
(2010 taxes)	
-----	
Total.....	37,862.44

A motion was made, seconded and carried to pay all bills over \$1,000.

**ACTING SECRETARY: Stephanie McCaa**

Nothing to report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS  
Nominating Committee**

The following candidates for the IPNA Board were presented for vote: Leigh Hays for V.P. Communications Greg Scott for V.P. Public Safety Carolyn McLaughlin for Treasurer Alan Travis for V.P. Zoning Erin Kane for V.P. Historic Preservation Jaclyn McDougal for Secretary

A motion was made, seconded and approved to approve all the nominations.

Judy Clements reminded everyone that applications for IPNA are due. You can go on-line or use the paper application and give it to Judy or mail it to the address on the form. Currently, there are 533 people who have joined. Last year that number was 799. Judy acknowledged that there have been some problems with PayPal. If you experience any glitches with the website payment process, please let her know.

Danny Feig-Sandoval said he found a dead blue heron and dead hawk. If you see anything unusual regarding the wildlife in the neighborhood, please let him know because the Audubon Society is trying to track these types of problems.

Some comments were made by various people regarding the success of this year's Festival. Apparently, 240 kegs were sold. Joyce Sayle said some of the original neighborhood pioneers returned this year for Festival and were blown away by how fantastic it was. Congratulations were expressed to everyone who helped make it a success.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Jonathan Miller thanked the retiring Board for their service.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The next IPNA meeting is June 15 at 7:30 p.m. There was a motion to adjourn. Regina Brewer adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

## INMAN PARK SECURITY PATROL MAY 2011-ACTIVITY REPORT

By Lt. Brent Schierbaum

Directed Patrols	546	Damage to Property	3	Found Property	1
Drop Ins/ Park and Walks	307	Street/ sidewalk Obstruction	2	Person Armed	1
Suspicious Person	27	Intoxicated Person	2	Robbery	1
Alarm Activation	21	Power Line Down	2	Welfare Check	1
Parking Complaint	7	Theft	2	Theft from vehicle	1
Fight/ Disturbance	6	Theft of vehicle	2	Burglary	1
Noise Complaint	4	Suspicious Vehicle	2	Burglary in Progress (False Alarm)	1
Enforcement Activity	Arrests: Warnings Issued for Waste Collecting Prior to 7:00 AM				0 3
Association Member Contacts				19	

(Public Safety, continued from page 1)

Unfortunately, we had four armed robberies in the Patrol area last month. With the summer months and warmer weather coming, we will have a lot more people in our neighborhood visiting our bars and restaurants and, unfortunately, making themselves targets for crooks. I cannot caution you enough to be aware of your surroundings at all times, try not to walk alone late at night, and if you see something suspicious or feel threatened, call 911 and then the Security Patrol. While these robberies seem spontaneous upon first glance, every robbery starts off with an acquisition phase, in which the robber sizes up his potential victim, weighs the potential risk involved and then decides whether to proceed or move on to the next target. People who are distracted or intoxicated are much more likely.

One of my goals as VP for Public Safety is to continue to improve the communication channels between the community, the Public Safety Committee and the Security Patrol. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or would like to join our team and help out with our fundraising and organizational efforts, please contact me at [public.safety@inmanpark.org](mailto:public.safety@inmanpark.org) or give me a call at (404) 597-8065. And of course, in an emergency, always call 911 first and then the Security Patrol at (404) 414-7802. Until next month, be safe!

### INMAN PARK CRIME REPORT MAY 2011

If you are thinking of moving to Inman Park and are reading this report, don't despair. Inman Park is 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.

DATE	TIME	CRIME	BLOCK LOCATION	NOTEWORTHY
4/16-4/17	9:00 PM-11:00 PM	Auto Theft	1000 Block Washita Ave.	Vehicle stolen from street.
4/20-4/21	10:50 PM-12:05 AM	Theft from Auto	Euclid Ave. @ Colquitt Ave.	Bookbag with laptop stolen from trunk of vehicle in parking lot. NO forced entry noted.
4/27	12:30 AM	Robbery	400 Block Moreland Ave..	3 victims approached by 2 suspects in back parking lot who demanded one of the victim's backpack's.
4/29-4/30	10:00 PM-10:00 AM	Theft from Auto	1000 Block Alta Ave.	\$2 in change taken from unsecured vehicle in parking lot..
5/4	7:30 AM-10:30 PM	Burglary	100 Block Waverly Way.	Back windows in two units of complex were broken and a laptop and camera stolen. A white male was seen leaving the location by a witness.
5/5	2:00 PM	Theft	1000 Block Colquitt Ave.	Suspects pulled up to victim and asked for directions and to use cellphone. Suspects sped off with phone.
5/5-5/6	11:30 PM-9:30 PM	Auto Theft	500 Block Seminole Ave.	Vehicle stolen from street.
5/7	4:00 AM-7:00 AM	Auto Theft	900 Block Austin Ave.	Vehicle stolen from parking lot.
5/8	10:20 PM	Robbery	1000 Block Colquitt Ave.	Victim approached by suspect on street who produced a handgun and demanded victim's property.
5/9-5/10	11:55 PM-8:30 AM	Auto Theft	700 Block Lake Ave.	Vehicle and keys stolen. Suspect works for victim and was not given permission to take vehicle..
5/10	10:40 PM	Robbery	900 Block Euclid Ave.	Victim was walking to MARTA station when approached by 2 suspects who demanded property and began punching victim. Suspects fled with wallet, backpack and debit card.
5/12	8:00 PM-10:00PM	Theft from Auto	300 Block Atlantis Ave.	Rear passenger side window smashed. Laptop and bag stolen.
5/14	10:30 PM	Robbery	400 Block N. Highland Ave.	2 victims were approached by suspect who produced a handgun and demanded their property. Suspect fled with victim's wallet to a waiting dark blue vehicle.

# INMAN PARK THEATRE NIGHT - THANKS TO ALL!

By Marie Wooldridge

Members of the Theater Night Committee wish to extend a special thanks to all who volunteered, attended and sponsored Inman Park Festival's 21st Annual Theatre Night. As Dad's Garage Theatre, Horizon Theatre Company, 7 Stages, and Synchronicity Performance Group continue to navigate through tight economic times, they are thoroughly appreciative of events such as this.

Neighborhood volunteers did an outstanding job of cleaning up the tent after a day of festival activity, arranging tables and chairs, hanging lights and, coordinating sound all within one hour. We are particularly grateful to the many sponsors who make this event possible and want to pay special tribute to the following Presenting Sponsors:

- Credit Union Financial Services (Lee and Marshall Boutwell)
- Andre and Bobbi DeWinter
- Drew & Faye Evans
- Nick and Aimee Franz
- Small Carpenters At Large (Danny and Lori Feig-Sandoval)
- Alfredia and Congressman David Scott
- The Trolley Barn.

Lastly, we bid a fond farewell to long time Inman Park resident, theatre patron, and performer Terry Sagedy as he relocates to Connecticut with his partner Paul Robinson. Over the past 12 years Terry has been incredible in serving as a liaison with the neighborhood theatres, coordinating technical aspects of the production and most memorably serving as a very entertaining master of ceremonies for this event. Terry, you will be greatly missed by all.

So many thanks to all for helping stage this event!

## NPU-N JUNE UPDATE

By Megan Holder-Chandler

Happy Summer! A few quick items to update you on from our May meeting.

- **Park's Edge:** The NPU-N board unanimously voted to deny the liquor license application for Park's Edge.
- **Department of Watershed Management:** Beginning July 1, the final rate increase under the four-year rate package will go into effect. The rate increase will be 12%. For more information about the water / sewer rate increase, please go to their website:

<http://www.atlantawatershed.org/water-sewer-rate-increase.htm>.

- **NPU-N Bylaws Reaffirmation:** At the June IPNA meeting we will be voting to reaffirm the NPU-N bylaws. Because this is a lengthy document, in an effort to save paper, please review the bylaws on the IPNA website:

[http://www.inmanpark.org/doc/NPU-N/NPU-N\\_Bylaws.2007v2.pdf](http://www.inmanpark.org/doc/NPU-N/NPU-N_Bylaws.2007v2.pdf)

## INMAN PARK FORUM WITH ATLANTA BOARD OF EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE BRENDA MUHAMMAD

By Paula Kupersmith,  
IPNA Education Chair

On May 19, neighbors gathered to meet their APS School Board member, Ms. Brenda Muhammad. Audience questions, as well as questions gathered via survey distribution on the Inman Park Yahoo Group, were answered to update Inman Parkers on current APS issues affecting their school community.

To sum up some of the most asked questions:

- **How a school board member works for their constituency:** As Inman Park has quite a few parents of young children these days, Ms. Muhammad educated the audience on how a school board member works for their constituency.
- **APS Board of Education Relations/Restoration of SACS Accreditation:** The ABOE is working through mediation to meet SACS mandates and restore high school accreditation in a timely manner.
- **Potential APS rezoning:** There is no plan for Inman Park rezoning at this time, though there is a timetable for APS to address district-wide overcrowding and under enrollment issues in a series of community meetings across all affected neighborhoods. To reference the APS Power Point presentation fully outlining pertinent rezoning information and upcoming community meeting dates, please use the following link:

[http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/186110115104513813/lib/186110115104513813/Community\\_Meeting\\_Presentation\\_5\\_18\\_11.pptx.pdf](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/186110115104513813/lib/186110115104513813/Community_Meeting_Presentation_5_18_11.pptx.pdf)

Complete May 19 meeting minutes with audience and survey Q&A are now available on the IPNA website: [www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org). Thanks to all who came out to meet Brenda Muhammad and participate in the survey. Notice of future Inman Park and APS meetings regarding APS rezoning will be posted on the IP Yahoo Group, the IPNA Website and in the *Advocator*.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Porch Party! Porch Party!**

**MAY PORCH PARTY**  
**Friday, June 24, 7:30**  
**at the home of**  
**Catherine McCarthy and**  
**Paul Kersch**  
**1084 Colquitt Ave.**

**BRING A DISH TO SHARE**  
**AND YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE**

\*\*\*\*\*

Does your porch want to host a porch party? It's  
easy and fun!

Call Richard or Pat Westrick, 404-523-4801  
**Porch Party! Porch Party!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**2011 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

**June 22, 2011,**

*What is the What*  
by **Dave Eggers**  
Hosted by Tara Burdeslaw  
548 Wimbledon Road (Piedmont Heights)

**July 27, 2011**

*Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*  
by **Helen Simonson**  
Hosted by Pam Gannon Parker  
469 Carter Ave. (East Lake)

**August 24, 2011**

*Lost Boys of Sudan:  
An American Story of the  
Refugee Experience*  
by **Mark Bixler**  
Hosted by Cathy Cook and Jim McKinney  
337 Drexel Avenue (Decatur)

For Information: 404-688-7330

**ATLANTA URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION  
(AUDC) UPDATE**

*By Erin Kane, Vice President for Historic Preservation  
historic.preservation@inmanpark.org*

**Please note:** If you wish to perform any construction work (beyond routine maintenance) on the exterior of a site, home, or building in the Inman Park Historic District, you must contact the AUDC to begin their review/approval process. Please contact me at the email address above as early in the project as possible to schedule meetings and be placed on the monthly IPNA meeting agenda, or for any questions related to the historic regulations or approval process.

UPCOMING APPLICATION DEADLINES	APPLIC- ATION DEADLINE	HEARING DATE
	May 31	June 22
	June 21	July 13
	July 5	July 27

Recent AUDC actions on applications for Certificates of Appropriateness:

- **796 Ashland Avenue** - Application for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness to allow replace siding and windows - approved
- **1122 Austin Avenue** - Application for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness to allow for exterior renovations - approved with one condition
- **820 Lake Avenue** - Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness to allow a second floor addition, porch enclosure - approved with one condition
- **418 Sinclair Avenue** - Application for a Type III Certificate of Appropriateness to allow for an increase in existing roof pitch and height - approved with conditions
- **240 North Highland Avenue** - Application for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-069) to allow the installation of signage - denied without prejudice
- **1080 Euclid Avenue** - Application for a Type II Certificate of Appropriateness (HD-11-077) to allow the installation of signage - approved with conditions

Applications scheduled for AUDC:

**June 8**

No applications scheduled for June 8 agenda.

**Please see the agenda on the back cover for applications scheduled for this month's IPNA meeting.**

AUDC CONTACT INFORMATION			
Website	<a href="http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/urbandesign.aspx">www.atlantaga.gov/government/urbandesign.aspx</a>		
Address	Atlanta Urban Design Commission 55 Trinity Ave., Suite 3400 Atlanta, GA 30335-0331		
Phone	404-330-6200	Fax	404-658-6734

## SPRINGVALE PARK – ANOTHER CONTINUATION

*By Bob Eberwein*

At the April IPNA meeting the Visioning Committee plan for park restoration was approved, with the exception of the berm treatment which is being held in abeyance. Amy Higgins and I both felt this was the best way to proceed. It allows Amy, or the Committee, to create some renderings of the staircase treatment as presented in the original plan. This gives us both time to clarify the pluses and minuses of the berm treatment options, staircases or bridge.

I would like to address here a couple of problems which bridge opponents have raised in regard to a bridge.

It will attract graffiti and low-life. Probably so. Therefore a bridge structure will need to be chemically treated to all reachable surfaces with a paint repellant for easy removal. There are many options on the market. For that matter, the staircases may well need the same treatment.

How do you create an inviting space beneath the bridge rather than getting the sense of entering a “cave”? The area beneath the bridge must be thought of as useful space. That needs a small committee to think through. The interior ceiling must be designed in an attractive fashion. I have seen pre-fab coffered concrete panels that add interest in such spaces. That is just one idea. A row of 5 or 6 lights, embedded and caged some 12 feet up each side need to be ranged across the expanse – operating on photocell or timer. Night lighting will help discourage the “homeless”, graffiti criminals, the furtive, and the jerks whose life aspiration is leaving their mark doggy-style. Yes, the Security Patrol will have a new location to keep an eye on, and they can do it from street distance.

The stream bed should be reconstructed in the casual manner such beds have. It is possible to run it through a culvert, but it makes more sense to me to let it trickle through in a bucolic state. The four paths might merge in a central plaza,

perhaps with a mini-bridge crossing the stream. Some benches. Low-light planting (generally ivy) might be worked in as far as reasonable into the area (10 to 15 feet). How all this may work out remains to be seen, hence the need for a small subcommittee within Visioning.

Removal of that portion of the berm and its talus slopes down to stream level for a bridge structure adds some 150 useable feet to the length of the park and replicates Joel Hurt’s original thought better than any other treatment.

Here’s a question. When touring the park would you rather: a) stroll beneath a pretty bridge on a level path alongside a streamlet, or b) climb up and down the equivalent of six flights of stairs plus cross a road, (and forget pushing a baby carriage, or having a toddler with you, or being just plain old )?

I am asking IPNA to place the question of berm treatment for final resolution on the agenda for the September IPNA meeting, by which time we will surely have a more refined staircase plan.

It is foolish to allow months or, more likely, years to pass while the question of the berm floats in the air. We cannot afford to waste that much time seeking City support and overall funding for a bridge. If the bridge concept fails then we can move along without it and you’ll hear no more from me.

For some people the bridge concept remains too problematical, too extravagant, and too prone to abuse. I like extravagance myself, especially when it’s visual. And for us extravagant types it is an opportunity to create something totally unique for Atlanta and for our community.

You can go through life constrained by worry over what some low-life may inflict on you, never having something elegant or pleasurable, simply because it might be misused. In such a case you have simply hoisted a white flag and said “I give up.” That seems pretty lame to me.

## INMAN PARK PRINCIPAL PRIDE

*by Sue G. Collins*

Inman Middle School Principal, Dr. Betsy Bockman has been named winner of the 2011 Professional Achievement Award from the University of Georgia College of Education. The Alumni Awards Selection Committee received a nomination from an Inman Middle School parent and honored Bockman for the outstanding contributions made throughout her career in the field of education. Congratulations to our wonderful principal for this prestigious honor!

Dr. Bockman has been an educator for 17 years, serving as an elementary school principal, Montessori Head of School, high school and elementary school assistant principal, elementary school physical education teacher, and high school coach. She holds a Bachelor’s in Education degree from Georgia Southern College, Masters of Education degree in sports management from the University of Georgia and an Educational Specialist degree in educational leadership from the University of Georgia.

She earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree in educational studies from Emory University.

Before beginning her career in education, Dr. Bockman worked in public relations, stadium operations, and radio for the Atlanta Braves. She is a native Atlantan, attending Garden Hills Elementary School, Sutton Middle School, North Fulton High School and graduating from Northside High School (now North Atlanta High School). Dr. Bockman is an Adjunct Professor at Mercer University and graduate of the Midtown Atlanta Leadership Program. Dr. Bockman serves on the Emory University School of Law Barton Family Law and Policy Clinic Advisory Board and on the School Renewal Review Team for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). She is the adoptive mother of five beautiful children ages 11, 9, 8, nearly 4 and nearly 3 and lives on DeGress Avenue. We are so proud to call her Inman Park's own!

## MORE MEMORIES FROM AN “INMAN PARK PIONEER”

By Deborah Sherwood

*(Editor's Note: This was excerpted from an email sent to Joyce Sayle as she contacted people who moved into Inman Park in the very early 1970's. As an introduction, Deborah Sherwood currently lives in upstate western New York near Niagara Falls and is a professional speaker and writer specializing in the history of America's First Ladies.)*

Tom and I were barely in our 20's when we bought the house at 872 Euclid Avenue. The J&C Sunday magazine featured an article about Inman Park with a beautiful picture of Bob Griggs' home on the cover. We knew that was where we wanted to live and bought the house next door.

When the real estate agent tried to show us the house the woman who was renting refused to let us inside. We bought the house sight unseen!

During World War II the house had been divided into four apartments. In order for us to go upstairs we had to go outside and enter through a door cut into the front of the house. Our first renovation project was closing the extra door and rebuilding the staircase to open into the foyer. Our house had seven fireplaces each featuring a free-standing gas ceramic heater which supplied the heat for the large building. I still have an amusing article Tom wrote for the Constitution about our trials taking on such a massive project.

The (mostly) young people moving into Inman Park became close friends. We all appreciated the uniqueness of the neighborhood, the beauty of the houses and our good fortune to be living there. We encouraged each other and went to yard sales and auctions together seeking that perfect table, sideboard, washstand, settee or slipper chair that would showcase our newly restored

parlors. Once we were at Gold's Auction House where we found our neighbors Jeff and Bonnie [Dees] bidding against each other for a massive dark octagonal table. Tom ran to Jeff and told him Bonnie was on the other side of the room also bidding. (The table looked beautiful in their foyer.)

It wasn't unusual for someone to appear at my door saying they lived in the house in the 30's, 40's or 50's and ask to look around. I always welcomed the former residents and relished their stories.

Parties were a common occurrence and Bob's home became our clubhouse. Often Bob would appear on his staircase in his robe and pajamas announcing he was going to bed and would be the last person to leave please lock the door.

The high ceilings in the homes made buying a Christmas tree difficult. Two weeks before Christmas meant a pilgrimage the farmers' market south of the city. At least a dozen of us would scatter among the lots looking for the fullest and tallest. A borrowed pickup truck would haul back the trees and mark the beginning of a series of neighborhood parties.

Like many of our neighbors we have our share of ghost stories but I'll spare you the details of the unexplained occurrences.

We were saddened to leave Inman Park and that magical time in our lives. But it is comforting to know that the neighborhood thrives and the experiences and friendships we enjoyed continue today for the current residents.

Perhaps one day I'll knock on the door at 872 Euclid Avenue and say, "I used to live here in the 70's. Could I look around?"

### INMAN PARK: GROWING UP (SECOND CHAPTER)

By Eugene Bales

*(Editor's Note: Here are two more pages of the memories written by Eugene Bales, long-time resident of Inman Park, for those of you who haven't read it on-line. The first piece of this story was published on page 22 of the May 2011 Advocator. The full story was published in the on-line version of the May 2011 Advocator. I'll try to publish the rest of the story in future Advocator's.)*

Headed towards downtown on Lake from Elizabeth, on the right hand side there was a small one story brick building housing Our Way Machine Shop then three houses similar to the ones on Austin. The next structure was a two story brick building that housed Mr. Sajem's dry cleaners and laundry. On the opposite side of Elizabeth at Austin was Mr. Huggins grocery, a couple of small shops, the Austin Avenue Buffet and lastly, Mr. Gordon's barbershop. The Gordon's lived at 193 Hale Street. The area of the small park at Elizabeth and Lake was the site of Mr. Merrill's Sundry and Dry Goods store. On Highland where Soto Soto is now located was one of the neighborhood kids favorite places- the Popsicle Redemption center. If you collected so many Popsicle wrappers [sort of messy in the summer] you could redeem them for all sorts of things. Rather like Montag Paper did with "Blue Horse" coupons you could cut from items and redeem.

Going up Austin towards Little Five Points across from where Sinclair intersects, there were three houses which sat very far back

from the street. They were up on the side of the hill towards Euclid and the lower yards were subject to flooding. After those was a two story dark brown cinder block house owned by Mr. Barksdale who taught at Bass. Two house further were the Fluker's [who always gave away candy apples for Halloween], then Mrs. Howard and her grandson [my cousin, Howard Parris]. The corner house at Euclid was, I believe, the parsonage from the Presbyterian Church which sat on Euclid slightly west and across from where Alta Ave intersects. Continuing west [back towards town] on Euclid there were two or three large two story homes.

There were several businesses including Mr. Hutchenson's butcher shop, a beauty parlor and at least one other business on Euclid between Poplar Cir. and Hurt. The corner of Hurt and Euclid, where the play ground is presently, was occupied by a brick apartment complex similar in construction to the ones on Highland between Washita and Colquitt. They occupied a rather deep ravine and had multiple basements. I believe the bringing of this area to street level took place at the time of the bridge construction in Springvale Park.

There were two or three cottage-type houses on the left along Hurt Street going towards Edgewood. They were followed by the Inman Park Baptist Church, then four or five two story houses, one of which belonged to Mrs. Crespo, who rented apartments. Dr. Waller's drug store was at the corner of Edgewood and Hurt. It was a favorite "quick stop" for teens between Sunday school and church at both the Baptist and Methodist churches. Its most notable incident was an article in the *Atlanta Journal* about "Oscar." Oscar was the dog belonging to my paternal grandfather

who lived across the railroad tracks on Walthall Street. [At the time, Hurt Street continued across the railroad tracks and became Walthall Street.] “Mr. Joe” got off the streetcar at the end of the line in front of the drug store and each day would walk up to meet him. Oscar was particularly inclined to like ice cream so Mr. Joe set up a charge account with the pharmacist and Oscar was served a bowl of ice cream every day while waiting for the streetcar.

Past the drug store was a Piggly Wiggly grocery and a dry cleaners/laundry. Several very large and grand houses, including one in white marble and with a swimming pool, stood along Edgewood. There was a “filling station” at the corner of Elizabeth and Edgewood and another at the corner of Hurt and DeKalb. Further down Edgewood, just past Waddell, were three two-story wooden houses with smaller houses at the back of the lots which they had constructed for rentals after World War II.

Where Euclid branches off Edgewood were three churches: The Church of God [Rev. Harp] on one side of Druid Circle, a Lutheran congregation [?] on the other corner and next to it a community non-denominational church [Rev. Paulk] later sold to the Lizzy Chapel congregation.

Little Five Points was the focus of the community. Since transportation was limited virtually everything one needed was located there. There were two grocery stores, A&P [Rag-O-Rama] and Red Dot [Bike shop], a fresh chicken market [American Apparel] where you could pick your chicken.. they would kill it, dip it in hot water, throw it into a tumbler sort of like a clothes dryer and, presto, fresh chicken. Of course this cost extra so most people took them home and wrung their neck or used an axe then threw a large wash tub over them to keep them contained until they bled out. The disadvantage was you had to dip them and pluck the feathers and wet chicken feathers smell awful!

We had three movie theaters: Euclid, Little Five Points and another whose name I cannot recall facing the end of McLendon Avenue. Euclid Avenue Baptist Church [Rev. Niger] which had split off from Inman Park Baptist was in the house now behind Vinnie’s. The Sweet Lime building held a Kidders Grill. There was a bank, a library, Little Five Points Bakery [where you could buy a bag of yesterdays brownies or cookies for a nickel, a five and dime store, Zesto’s, Adamson’s Beauty Salon, Harmon Cleaners, a Miss Georgia Ice Cream store and two pharmacies, Pendergrass and Poole and Euclid Drug [Dr. Dekauph]. A filling station was located where the triangle park is currently. At that time Euclid continued straight through forming a triangle. There were a couple of liquor stores on the west side of Moreland. These were very profitable since Moreland divided wet Fulton from dry DeKalb. My daddy always said that then there was a movement to make DeKalb wet, most of the money to keep it dry came from the liquor dealers along Moreland. The current Elmar’s housed Barfield’s Gym. The next building was the post office. It and the next door filling station there belonged to Mr. Hallyburton.

## LIFE

Life revolved around the family. Most families were multi-generational partly due to custom and partly to the depression. During wartime this was made doubly important since the men were off at war and the women were working. Having someone to care for the children was critical. Our family, the Mullinax’s [853 Lake], the Wilson/Hopkins [209 Hale], the Johnsons, [203 Hale], the Gordon’s The Hardin’s who lived in the Hurt cottage, and the Ledbetter’s [230Elizabeth] all had grandparents and/or great-grandparents living with the core family. Virtually every room in a house was in use. I can think of only two families I visited who had a formal dining room; everyone ate in the kitchen. With few

exceptions, the entire family ate at the same time, followed by school work, radio or, after 1948, television .

We had only one radio and it was on most of the day. At breakfast we usually heard the LaFevvers, a gospel music program, followed by The Breakfast Club, a variety program which also included Kate Smith [a singer]. From about eleven until two, programming was aimed at women with soap operas such as *Stella Dallas* and *John’s Other Wife*. From four thirty until six there were kids programs which were mostly adventure oriented such as *The Lone Ranger*, *Tom Mix* or, *Sky King*. Six o’clock was Walter Winchell with the news [“Good evening Mister and Mrs. America and all the ships at sea...”]. Later there was *Suspense Theater*, *Nick Charles* [detective story], *Amos and Andy* or, *The Phantom*. Saturday morning favorites were the dramatizations of stories by Mother Goose or Hans Christian Anderson. Since everyone was “compelled” to listen to everyone else’s choices we grew up with a wide world view, especially with the news and talk among the grown-ups of the war and the progress of the troops.

My grandmother bought the first t.v. in the neighborhood for my eleventh birthday. It was a whopping twelve and a half inch Philco console. Since it was the only t.v. for blocks, our house became very popular for watching Howdy Doody, The Ed Sullivan Show and, on Saturday night, the wrestling match. Nothing but a test pattern was on from about eleven at night until four the next afternoon on *both* channels. Most folks read the *Atlanta Journal* [afternoon], the *Atlanta Constitution* [morning] or, for a time, the *Georgian* to get the news.

We were fortunate enough to have a telephone. It was [still is] as heavy as an anvil and early on I remember talking to an operator to make a local call and, for many years if you wanted to make a long distance call you had to go through an operator. On long distance people raised their voice volume. Our number was 8550, then as Atlanta grew it became JACKSON 8550. It eventually became JACKSON5-8550 and everyone wondered how we would remember all those numbers.

Everyone knew everyone else. My mother could practically name every occupant of the houses on Lake, Hale, Virgil, Elizabeth and Austin. People did not relocate, not even the renters, and there was a great deal of visiting going on. People did not have a lot of things so tools and household items were often borrowed from one another.

Everyone knew most of everyone else’s business. People knew that M got falling down drunk. If a neighbor found him they would help him home, ring the doorbell and politely leave before it was answered. Mr. B was “not quite right” and no one paid much attention when he would walk down the middle of the street yelling. The “funny“ fellow up on Lake near the railroad was tolerated but off limits to kids. Adults were not afraid to ask a child into their house for lemonade and kids thought nothing about accepting. In this same way people helped one another when they could, Mrs. Wilson liked to enter contests if she did not have to pay anything. One year she won a case of tuna fish. She [probably happily for her family] shared it around among the neighbors. My father and grandfather kept a Victory Garden across the street in an area cleared from the woods. Neighbors were welcome to stop and pick something if they needed it but most would stop at the house and speak to someone who most likely was sitting out on the porch. The produce from the garden, supplemented with other vegetables from the State Farmers Market on Lee Street in the West End, were canned in the summer. With much sweating, the items were prepared, par-boiled, placed in sterilized glass Bell jars and placed on shelves in the closet. My Grandmother always had to do extra jars of pickled peaches because the maid’s husband,

who did the yard, often wanted a jar of them for his lunch in lieu of anything else.

The men mostly being at war meant that most families were single mom types. It was always a tense time when someone got a telegram and neighbors rallied for bad news. We were always interested in hearing war stories from those on leave but they often did not want to talk about it. There were family members and friends who remembered both the Spanish-American War and the American Civil War and they were more prone to tell stories. My paternal great grandmother {Delilah Brassell Cox} and a lady born into slavery [Sally Solomon] would tell us family stories when they were keeping us. Sitting quietly on the porch and just listening we heard the oral history of various family members.

During wartime many of my friends lost fathers and uncles. We were too small to appreciate the impact of those events but occasionally they connected. I recall my grandmother receiving a telegram while we sitting on the porch one morning. My uncle [John H. Cox] was missing in action. He was later recovered but her reaction to the news is still imprinted on me. When Mac Gordon was shot in France while hanging from a parachute, folks reacted as they did when someone in the neighborhood died. They cooked and visited.

Death came only rarely since most of the people in the neighborhood were young and relatively healthy. When it did come people went into "support mode." Hams, fried chicken, casseroles and cakes were common items to take to the family making sure they had enough for visitors and relatives coming for the funeral.. Since insurance was an extra expense people often did not have it, so if there was a death someone would go door to door taking up contributions.

My grandfather, Mr. Wilson next door, and Mr. Gordon all had cars. "Uncle Will" Mullinax [853 Lake] had a battered old car he used in his painting business. People mostly walked or hitched a ride or, if they had to go to town, took the street car.

Uncle Will and his brother had a sideline during the winter to make up for no painting work. They sold Christmas trees from the triangular lot now the side yard of 853 Lake. Most of the trees were cedars and cost from \$1.50 to \$3.50. A six footer or more was \$1 a foot.

Childhood diseases were a real concern. From what my mother said, I suspect this was because the parents lived through and remembered the pandemic of the 20's. Some people still gave purgatives in the spring to "clean you out" but my family did not. Measles, mumps and Scarlet fever were common and you might find yourself quarantined by the Health Department if you had one of them. Polio was probably the most feared and FDR's popularity kept it fresh in peoples mind. In April of each year they would take an intermission at every movie theater and pass a basket for contributions to fight polio: The March Of Dimes. Colds were treated with a dose of Castor Oil mixed into a glass of orange juice. [It was years before I could stomach orange juice!]. Cuts were treated by a kiss and band-aid or, if worse, the application of an ointment called Oil of Sol. One rarely went to the Doctor and if one were needed you called and they came to you.

Houses were still largely heated by coal. Furnaces were rare and most people supplemented the coal with space heaters. Gas lines had been brought to the house but was used mainly to replace the kerosene ceiling fixtures. By the time I came along the fixtures had been changed to have gas on the top and electric lights on the bottom. In the winter my grandmother would heat a brick, wrap it in newspaper [I can still summon the slightly scorched smell] and put it in the bed to warm the sheets and your feet.

**(To be continued.** Also available on-line at [www.inmanpark.org](http://www.inmanpark.org) in the May 2011 *Advocator* file.)

**AGENDA FOUND ON NEXT PAGE**

# IPNA MEETING

Wrecking Bar  
292 Moreland Avenue

**WEDNESDAY  
JUNE 15, 2011**

**BUSINESS MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 p.m.**

No Childcare Available

## JUNE 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**
  - B. Planning**
    - 1. Census project
    - 2. NPU report
      - a. Park's Edge Update
      - b. NPU-N By-Law Vote
      - c. Beltline Minute
  - C. Zoning**
    - 1. Inman Perk-Liquor License
  - D. Historic Preservation**
    - 1. 936 Austin Avenue
    - 2. 523 Seminole Avenue
  - E. Communications**
    - 1. Facebook Page
  - E. Public Safety**
    - 1. Membership Renewal
    - 2. Events-Beerfest
  - F. Treasurer**
    - 1. Report of Regular Expenditures
  - G. Secretary**
- VII. Committee Reports**
- VIII. New Business**
- IX. Old Business**
- X. Adjournment**

