

Love is in the air
so think twice about
sealing your windows



Volume 26, Number 5
February 2003

stanton park neighborhood association news

CALENDAR

FEB 19 **Preservation Café: Historic Colors for House Facades**
Wednesday, 6:30–7:15 PM
Trattoria Alberto (top level)
506 Eighth Street, SE

FEB 26 **Stanton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting**
Wednesday, 7:30 PM
Northeast Branch Library, at 7th Street and Maryland Avenue NE.

MAR 8 **SPNA Annual Dinner**
Saturday, 6:30–10:30 PM
Church of the Reformation,
212 East Capitol Street NE.

MAR 31 **Stanton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting**
Monday, 7:30 PM
Northeast Branch Library, at 7th Street and Maryland Avenue NE.
New night!

New NE Library Hours (effective March 2003)

Monday:	1:00–9:00 PM
Tuesday:	10:00 AM–5:30 PM
Wednesday:	10:00 AM–5:30 PM
Thursday:	10:00 AM–5:30 PM
Friday:	Closed
Saturday:	10:00 AM–5:30 PM
Sunday:	Closed

Want to know more about SPNA?

Want to know what happened at the last meeting? Want to sign up to receive the newsletter via e-mail? All this and more available on the new SPNA Web site—
coming soon!

Reduction in NE Library Hours Prompts Changes and a Membership Vote for SPNA

Due to the District's budget problems, the city has cut funding for the library system, which will reduce its hours. Starting in March, the Northeast Library will no longer be open Wednesday nights, and will be closed all day on Fridays. It will be open 1:00–9:00 PM on Mondays, and 10:00 AM–5:30 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. (The Southeast Library will be closed Mondays, open 1:00–9:00 PM on Tuesday, and 10:00 AM–5:30 PM, Wednesday through Saturday.)

As a result, **SPNA's meetings will be held on Monday nights** instead of Wednesday **starting in March**. SPNA's bylaws currently state that the meeting will be held on the last Wednesday of the month at least six times a year from September to May. The Steering Committee has recommended that the bylaws be changed to state that the meeting will occur with the same frequency, but on a day of the week to be set by the Steering Committee. A vote on the bylaw change will be taken at the February meeting, on this text:

"The SPNA year shall be September through August. At least six monthly meetings shall be held between September and May, during the last week of the month, on a day of the week to be set by the Steering Committee. If a major holiday occurs that week, the meeting date will be set by the Steering Committee."

The January 29 General Meeting opened with an introduction of officers by Warren Friedman, SPNA Chair. Treasurer Cory Fleming's report was next, followed by Vice Chair Dee Atwell's request for suggestions on businesses, which could be contacted to support SPNA's annual dinner, which is held to raise money for the SPNA scholarship program. Warren also discussed SPNA's support for efforts to upgrade Stanton Park. (Friends of

Stanton Park, whose Chair, Jeff Johnson is an SPNA Steering Committee member, is working with DC Parks & Recreation, and the National Parks Service.) Dee indicated that SPNA would be selling "gator bags," which are used to seep water into street trees roots, to raise money for the Scholarship Fund. Warren also mentioned SPNA's plans to work with the North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association on common issues between the two neighborhoods.

In view of plans to close the Northeast Library on Wednesday nights SPNA will have to schedule a new day for its monthly General Meeting, beginning in March. At the February 3 Steering Committee meeting it was decided to meet on the last Monday of the month.

Warren then introduced Harold Brazil, At-Large Member of the DC City Council, and formerly the Councilmember for Ward 6. Mr. Brazil talked about his work as Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development and the many exciting development projects going on in D.C. At a time when other states are experiencing severe financial problems the District's situation is relatively good. There is a total of \$25 billion in development projects either recently completed, in progress, on planned. Three projects are of special interest to SPNA:

- Station Place (already under construction).
- Additional development near the Brentwood Shopping Center, where the new Giant and Home Depot stores recently opened.
- Plans to construct the Newseum at 6th and Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Councilmember Brazil also discussed H Street NE revival efforts, including the H Street participation in the District's Main Street program.

Continued, next page

Minutes (continued)

SPNA has been especially active in this effort. He also indicated that the city is working to try to keep the Children's Museum in the city, possibly at another location in Ward 6. He also talked about projects elsewhere in the city including:

- The planned opening of the new Convention Center in 2003 - the center already is booked for the first year.
- A major residential/retail development at the old Sears/Hechinger store in NW.
- A large amount of residential and other development in Ward 8.

Councilmember Brazil said that while downtown is booming, more efforts are needed to promote economic development in the neighborhoods.

SPNA Scholarship Fund News

SPNA members and supporters have donated just over \$3,100 so far for the 2002-03 scholarships, which will be awarded this coming May. But we still have a long way to go to reach our goal of \$10,000 for the year. The contributions to the SPNA Scholarship Fund are among the best investments you can make with your charity dollars as all the donated funds go directly to the scholarship recipients. Please consider a donation to SPNA Scholarship Fund today!

Neighbor of the Year

SPNA is accepting nominations for its Neighbor of the Year Award, which will be presented at the SPNA Annual Dinner in March. Nominees should be someone who lives in the neighborhood, and who has made a notable contribution to the community in some way. Send your nominations by February 20 to SPNA, P.O. Box 75085, Washington, DC, 20013-5085, or via e-mail to: wsilagi@hotmail.com.

Are you a Member of SPNA?

Nearly 360 letters were sent out to past and current members as part of the 2002-03 membership recruitment drive in January. SPNA maintained its low annual dues of \$10 for individuals and \$18 for households to keep membership affordable for everyone in our neighborhood. A new lifetime membership is also available for \$250. In addition to renewing members, SPNA also hopes to recruit new volunteers for work on various neighborhood committees including Land Use, Environment, and Annual Dinner. Remember, SPNA is your neighborhood association and we need everyone to help maintain and improve it!



Annual SPNA Dinner

The Stanton Park Neighborhood Association's Annual Dinner will be Saturday, March 8. As usual, the dinner will feature a raffle and auction to raise money for SPNA's scholarship fund for deserving DC youth.

The dinner will start at 6:30 PM at the Church of the Reformation (222 East Capitol Street). This year's dinner will be catered by Banducci's and will feature appetizers, salad, roast beef, cheese tortellini, eggplant parmigiana with pasta, drinks, and dessert.

The cost will be \$25 for adults and children age 13 and up. For children under 13, the cost will be one dollar for every year of the child's age (for example, \$5 for a 5-year-old and \$10 for a 10-year-old). Please send in your reservation and payment by **March 1**, using the attached form.

This is a great opportunity to see old friends, meet new ones, and benefit a good cause. Please join us!

SPNA Membership and Annual Dinner Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ (day) _____ (eve)

E-mail: _____ Would you like to receive the SPNA newsletter via e-mail?

Single Annual membership (\$10) \$ _____

Household Annual membership (\$18) \$ _____

Household Lifetime membership (\$250) \$ _____

Tax-deductible SPNA scholarship donation \$ _____

SPNA Annual Dinner [_____ adults + _____ children] \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Signature: _____

Want to get more involved?

Let us know if you'd be interested in working on any of these SPNA committees:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land use | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Web |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship review | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual dinner/special activities |

Please make checks payable to SPNA. Send checks and form by **March 1, 2003** to:

SPNA
P.O. Box 75085
Washington, DC 20013-5085