


**Astor Neighborhood Association, Inc.**  
 526 S. Monroe Ave  
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**ASTOR**  
**OUTLOOK**

WINTER 2008 • VOL. 14 NO. 4

## Save The Date!

# 10TH ANNUAL ANA WINE TASTING

## A Progressive Wine Tasting Party

**Keeping it Simple: White House & Red House!** One neighborhood host home will feature a variety of white wines, while the second home will pour exclusively red wines, and, as always, deliciously prepared hors d'oeuvres will be served. As winter sets in, neighbors are already looking forward to what will surely be another memorable evening!

If you haven't made it out yet for this annual mid-winter neighborhood event, this is the year to do it! And if you're an annual attendee, we look forward to seeing you again!

Please save the date, and look for our registration flyer to be delivered in December.

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**Winter is here!** It's cold and already snowy, but we all know we can't beat it—we just need to make the most of it! The Astor Neighborhood Association tries to do our best to keep us in touch over these long months of less daylight and fewer sidewalk passersby. We hope you can join in the fun of some of our winter events and activities that we have planned.

For the holiday season, we're trying something new ... a Holiday Home Decorating Contest! So many of our neighbors do such a wonderful job each year of accenting their homes with beautiful holiday décor. With this contest, we're hoping to inspire more neighbors to join in the decorating, and reward the best of the best. Please see inside this newsletter for more information on this exciting new event!

We're also once again encouraging neighbors to put out their luminaries on Saturday nights in December. There is nothing like a snowy, quiet night

in Astor with our sidewalks and front steps lighting up the night!

On Saturday, January 31 at 7:00 pm, will be the 10th Annual ANA Wine Tasting event! For many neighbors who have been around for awhile, it's hard to believe that we've been doing this for ten years now! It has become quite the tradition, and a well attended event that many neighbors look forward to enjoying. Many people find it to be a fun social event that comes at a perfect time of year—during the bleakest days of winter. See inside this newsletter for more information, and for a registration flyer to be delivered later this month. We hope you can join us!

As always, please feel free to contact me, or any other board member, to get involved, volunteer at an event, or express an idea or concern.

See you around the neighborhood!

Andrew Higgins  
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**ANA Meetings**

3rd Monday of the month, 6 PM at Howe Neighborhood Family Resource Center — all are welcome! January 19, February 16

**Neville Public Museum Exhibits**

Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings (thru 1/11/09); Holiday Memories: Prange's Christmas Windows thru 1/18/09)

**Holiday Fest at the NEW Zoo**

December 12 – 13, December 19-20

**A Heritage Hill Christmas**

December 13, 20

**Melodies of Christmas Past at****Hazelwood Historic House**

December 13 & 14; December 20 & 21; December 26, 27, 28

**ANA Holiday Home Decorating Contest**

December—Register at [www.astorneighborhood.org](http://www.astorneighborhood.org)

**12th Annual WPS Garden of Lights at the Botanical Gardens**

Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays through December 28

**Public Snowshoe Hike, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary**

January 10 and February 21

**Public Cross-Country Ski Night, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary**

January 22 and February 10

**50th Anniversary Winter Dance Party at Riverside Ballroom**

January 23

**ANA 10th Annual Wine Tasting**

January 31

**Winterfest on Broadway**

January 31

**Frosty Family Fun Night, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary**

February 7

**Arti Gras, Shopko Hall**

February 7-8

**Einstein Science Expo at Shopko Hall**

February 14

**Celebrating Abraham Lincoln's Birthday, Heritage Hill**

February 21



While winter snow certainly is beautiful this time of year, keeping it cleared off of driveways, sidewalks and roads does create challenges for both our community and residents. Following a few simple guidelines can help keep our neighborhood safer, pedestrian friendly, and prevent costly citations. Here are some important points to keep in mind whenever we have snow:

**Whenever snow falls and sticks to the roadway, the Dept. of Public Works (DPW) deploys trucks to plow and salt primary streets and bus routes.** If snow accumulation exceeds two (2) inches, then DPW plows all streets in the City. NOTE: The "snow accumulation" term used above refers to the **depth of snow on the street**. It is not the official snowfall reported by the National Weather Service. Accumulation on the street can be less than the official snowfall because pavement temperatures can be higher than ground temperatures. Snow tends to consolidate on pavement. So it typically takes more than two than two (2) inches of National Weather Service snow to equal two (2) inches of roadway/plowable snow.

**Parking on all City streets during snow emergencies is prohibited.** Please listen to your local news telecast or radio programming for information during heavy snow conditions. Snow emergencies are declared under widely varying conditions; there is no hard and fast rule. When a snow emergency is declared, all media are notified approximately six (6) hours prior to the beginning of the event. During a snow emergency, all streets must remain free of

parked vehicles until plowed. If a snow emergency is still in effect BUT your street has been plowed, you may park your vehicle back on the road without penalty. Parking on all City streets is prohibited between 3 AM and 5 AM daily, year-round.

**City ordinance 9.30(1) requires that residents remove snow from their sidewalks within 24 hours after a snowfall.** If a violation is reported, the City will remove the snow and the resident (or owner) will be billed. To report a sidewalk which hasn't been shoveled, call 448-3535 Mon - Fri, 8 am to 4:30 pm.

**Do not use de-icing agents (salt or chemical) if at all possible.** They degrade the pavement and are harmful to the environment. If you must use them, clean as much snow from the pavement first. Then use only as much de-icing agent as necessary to cause melting action. Placing a lot of de-icing agent down all at once does not speed the melting process. Give it time to work. Then add more if necessary. Salt is very ineffective at pavement temperatures below 10 to 15 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Placing garbage cans and/or recycling bins on snow banks is prohibited.** Residents must place these containers on a flat surface or shoveled-out area.

**Holidays impact waste collection schedules.** Finally, keep in mind that when the City is closed for a holiday, garbage and recycling collection is delayed by one day in that holiday week. So if your normal garbage day is Friday, the weeks of Christmas Day and New Year's Day it will be delayed until Saturday.

**LUMINARIES: AN ASTOR NEIGHBORHOOD TRADITION**

December is a time for family and tradition. Please join our neighborhood in participating in the Astor's tradition of displaying luminaries every Saturday night in December and Christmas Eve. Don't know how? Luminaries can be as simple as a brown paper bag filled with a little sand or kitty litter and votive candle. Target is now selling battery powered luminary lights. There was an ice luminary display on Jackson that was quite beautiful.

**Thank You, Schroeder's Flowerland!**

The Astor Neighborhood Association wishes to thank Schroeder's Flowerland for generously donating their time to put up our holiday lights on the Monroe Avenue median just south of Mason Street. Thanks to Schroeder's, the seven trees on that median are all lit up for the season. Much appreciation!



**When do pumpkin carving and great-tasting ice cream mix** (besides always in my book)? When you're selected as a winner in the 1st Annual Astor Neighborhood Pumpkin Carving and Decorating Contest!

**Congratulations to the Vingers** (805 Clay St.), **the Melottes** (1133 Jackson St.), and **Bonkowski** (840 Quincy St.). They were our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in this year's contest. Each family received gift certificates to Hansen's for their artistic (and sometimes scary) creations.

Also, a big thanks to our judges, Jesse and Tanya Sharp, Christian Kime, and Mike Van Handel—along with their kids—braved a chilly night before Halloween. There were lots of great pumpkins on display which made for a tough decision. Hopefully, the decision will only get tougher each year.

Thank you to the winners and to everyone who decorated their home for Halloween. It's great to see our neighborhood come alive during each holiday.

Please visit the ANA website ([www.astorneighborhood.org](http://www.astorneighborhood.org)) next October to sign up for the 2009 contest. Check out the site before then for lots of great information about our neighborhood all year long.



**Once again** members of our neighborhood, garbage bags and rubber gloves in tow, took to the Fox River trail this past autumn to help preserve our portion of this wonderful city resource.

A majority of the garbage collected is seemingly from those who use the trail the most; sports drink bottles, energy bar wrappers, fishing line and bait containers. The volunteers have never left the trail empty

handed, but have noticed that each year the garbage seems to be a little less.

The Astor Neighborhood Association has committed itself to helping clean up the trail twice a year in both fall and spring. It remains a wonderful opportunity for us to take care of a resource we all use and for families to help teach their children the value of conservation. We look forward to seeing more families and neighbors join us this spring!



#### Let your light shine! Announcing the 1st Annual Astor Neighborhood Holiday Lights Competition!

On the evening of Tuesday, December 16th a panel of several judges from the neighborhood association will judge neighborhood holiday decor and choose a winner for three separate categories. Those categories will be, "**Astor Classic**" for those houses exuding a more traditional approach to decorating, "**Most Original**" for homes where a lot of unique creativity has gone into the effort and "**Something Special**" for the house that doesn't quite fit into a category, but does something "special" that is worth mentioning. Those residents wanting to be considered for the judging should visit [www.astorneighborhood.org](http://www.astorneighborhood.org) and click on the Holiday Lights Competition link to register.

Winners will have their name and a photo of their house published in the next newsletter.

**Ask anyone**, December is always the busiest month of the year. At the Resource Center, "**Frost Fest**," our open house celebration of the winter holidays is on December 13th. Then on December 15th, our **Family Dinner Night** will have an "Elves' Workshop" in which the kids will be able to secretly shop for a parent or relative. While we enjoy every minute of these special events, it takes lots of hours and lots of supplies to make them happen. Below is a list of December Wishes—we hope you might consider putting us on your shopping list and drop off any of the following at our building.

- Any kind of children's toy, babies through 8th grade
- Family board or card games
- Stuffed animals
- Jewelry
- PG- or G-rated DVD's
- 2 liter bottles of soda
- Christmas Cookies! (We need 100s of cookies!)
- Coloring books or art supplies
- Small (dollar store type) prizes for games—we need about 100
- Small appliances
- Local gift or gas cards;
- New bottles of shampoos, lotions, perfumes.
- Scarves, hats and mittens or gloves (adult)



If you don't get the chance to make a donation before these two special events,

here's the ongoing wish list of supplies always needed at the Resource Center:

#### Weekly Bingo and Lunch program for Senior Citizens needs prizes

- Cans of soup, vegetables, canned meat
- Household cleaning supplies
- Packaged food
- Gas cards
- Personal care items (shampoo, lotion, tissue, toilet paper)
- Household items (garbage bags, paper products, batteries)

**Pre School**—It is time to replace some of our worn out toys.

- New or gently used pre-school toys

#### School based programs K-5th

- Craft supplies (glitter, foam, beads, clay)
- Dollar store type prizes for bingo
- Books new or gently used for Book Club
- Games
- Education toys
- Funds to purchase books for the book club

#### Center Activities

- Office reception-type chairs with washable cover for our dental clinic waiting area
- Quality pots/pans for cooking program
- Kitchen towels

Contact Kathy Kauth if you have questions at 448-7340. Thanks for your generosity!

**Every winter** a variety of issues come up regarding snow plowing in Green Bay. This is a summary of our snow plowing operations.

Green Bay has approximately 500 miles of streets to be plowed. About 115 of those miles are primary streets and bus routes. Whenever a snowfall sticks to the pavement, all primary streets and bus routes are plowed and salted. If the snow accumulation exceeds 2 inches, all streets in the city are plowed. Side streets are not salted, with the exception of hills and intersections where a sand and salt mixture is used.

Last winter a beet juice and salt mixture was tried. This has been used successfully in other cities and we experienced good results. (This is not the beet juice you are familiar with

from a can of beets. This is a commercial form which doesn't stain.) Mixing the salt with beet juice allows us to use about 25% less salt and this mixture works better than just salt in colder temperatures.

Every other time the city plows, the routes are reversed so that if you are on the end of the route for a plowing operation you will be on the beginning the next time.

There are exceptions to these guidelines. The frequency of snowfalls, the heaviness of the snow and different temperatures may dictate more or less frequent plowing.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

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