



Voting District Boundaries Change

Data from the last census has caused a shift in the boundaries of the voting districts. Most Astor

neighborhood residents have voted at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church on Monroe Avenue, however, most will now vote at Union Congregational Church on Madison Street beginning with the upcoming April election. All registered voters will receive a notice.

Approximate boundaries for those who will now vote at Union Congregational are the Fox River on the west, Roosevelt Street on the east, Mason Street on the north, and the city limits on the south. There are some exceptions, so please pay attention to your notices or call the City Clerk's Office at 448-3010.

Please remember to vote!!!

Meet the Candidates

The ANA is once again sponsoring a forum to meet area candidates, which presents an opportunity for you to ask questions and get answers from those seeking local office. It is scheduled for Monday, March 18, from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church (743 S. Monroe Avenue), prior to the ANA annual meeting.

The candidates include Tony Theisen, Alderperson; Jim Schmitt, Brown County Board Supervisor; and John Gower, Brown County Board Supervisor.

ANA Annual Meeting March 18

The Astor Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 18 at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and is preceded by a candidate's forum that begins at 6:00 p.m.

A full agenda is in place, which includes:

- Mayor's presentation
- Alderperson and Brown County Board Supervisor Comments
- Web Site Introduction
- Vote for Board Members

The schedule is tentative at this time, so watch for more information regarding the meeting. We hope to see you there!

Easter Egg Hunt

Mark your calendars for this year's Easter Egg Hunt, which is set for Saturday, March 30, at St. James Park. The start time is 10:00 a.m. A \$1.00 donation is requested. Please have each child bring an empty egg carton to hold the eggs they collect. A separate area will be set-up for children three years old and younger.



Calendar of Events

- March 18** – Annual Meeting and Political Forum
- March 30** – Easter Egg Hunt
- April 2** – Spring Elections
- April 15** – Board Meeting
- April 27** – River Clean-up
- May 20** – Board Meeting
- May 22** – Astor Park Historic House Walk

President's Message

Lately, much has been made of the woes of our downtown area. We are now at a point where there is a real possibility for revitalization of this integral part of our city. Although you may not refer to Astor as a downtown neighborhood, what happens eight blocks north of us is important to our neighborhood. I could give you many reasons why this is so, but I will keep my reasoning to just two: Economics and Quality of Life.

If our downtown continues its slow slide into oblivion, it may not just be contained to the immediate downtown area. Look north of Mason Street and you will notice a neighborhood that is working diligently to rebuild from a long and slow decline. What happened there is not necessarily unrealistic for our neighborhood. All it takes is a few homeowners who abandon their property physically and/or financially to begin the slide. A vibrant downtown leads to demand for housing in or near it; with increased demand comes the possibility of home owners willing to invest and rehabilitate the housing stock; with that comes increased home values and an active neighborhood that can support a wonderful new downtown.

If you have ever been in the Blackstone Restaurant, the photographs of vintage Green Bay have probably piqued your interest. The pictures depict a downtown area filled with businesses...and people. If you have ever talked with someone who has lived in Green Bay for sometime, there is no doubt that they will speak of fond memories of Kaap's, Woolworth's, Naus Department Store, or many of the other fine businesses that lined the streets of downtown. I have great memories of getting bundled up along with my brother and sisters and going to visit the Christmas windows at Prange's. Wouldn't it be special if similar memories could be had for future generations?

The Meyer Theatre may indeed be the spark that could light the flame of downtown once again. Undoubtedly, it will bring many people to the downtown area who haven't visited in quite awhile. Hopefully, it will ignite the interest of potential business owners to consider downtown Green Bay as a viable place to do business.

Well here comes the rub: new businesses will not work without a steady flow of customers, and customers will not come if there is not a good variety of businesses to choose from...kind of like the proverbial chicken and egg story.

So, I ask this of you: support downtown businesses, not just occasionally, but diligently. There are many great restaurants and stores on the fringes of town but there are many that are less than a 3-minute drive (or walk) from your home...Angelina's, Café Espresso, Victoria's (new to the scene), Lou's Bootery and The Heel...just to name a few. These businesses, along with all the others, need your support. They can't just rely on out-of-town visitors to the KI Center – they need locals to support them on a regular basis. If you are thinking of starting a business or know of someone who is, consider locating downtown.

The downtown issue is not easily resolved, and I do not profess to have "the" answer. I do believe, however, that the basics can have a positive impact on making it once again an important and vibrant place in this community...and a convenient place of commerce for the neighbors of Astor.

Michael Nass, President

The ANA Needs You

The ANA is always in need of board members. Please give Michael Nass a call at 430-3226 if you are interested in serving the Astor community. Elections are coming up in March.

Meet Your Neighbor

Beverly and Ronald De Lain moved to 817 S. Jackson Street in October of 1965 to accommodate the needs of their expanding family. The De Lains four children have long since left the home, but the couple has chosen to continue to live in the home due to its memories, friendly neighbors, and the well-maintained, quiet neighborhood. Their grandchildren, all of which live in the area and visit often, are forging many new memories in the home.

Bev and Ron are active members of the Green Bay community. Ron worked for the county from 1959 to 1993 and served on the Brown County Board from 1994 to 1998. He is the current director of the original Green Bay Boys Choir. Bev worked at the St. Norbert Book Store and Shopko. She takes great pride in the raising of their four children.

When the De Lains first moved into the neighborhood, there was a row of homes adjoining their backyard along Van Buren Street. St. Vincent and Bellin Hospitals have since purchased all the homes to expand hospital services. The De Lains feel that the hospitals have made good neighbors over the years by partnering with the residents to meet their needs, such as putting up a barrier wall and berm to maintain the privacy of residents.

A recent trend the De Lains have noticed is the age of the neighbors. When the De Lains first moved into the neighborhood most of the neighbors were young and had children. There came a time, however, when the children grew up or they moved away with their families and the presence of children dwindled. The De Lains have noticed an influx of young couples with children in the neighborhood once again. And with them come many home restoration projects that serve as a catalyst for a growing sense of pride and camaraderie among the residents of the Astor neighborhood.

House Kudos

Bonnie Bolton moved into her charming home at 1124 S. Van Buren Street in 1995. The house was built in 1910 by carpenter and contractor Ralph Evraets.

Intersecting gambrel roofs, original clapboard siding, and a full front porch with enclosed square pillars provide a unique look for the neighborhood. The white picket fence, which Bonnie refurbished, draws one's attention immediately. In 1952, the horse barn at the back of the yard was converted into a garage.

The house was completely replastered that same year. In 1986, the Robert Piontek family added a family room (with fireplace) onto the back of the home and a full, soundproof basement underneath. A bathroom, accessible from the dining room on the front side, was expanded into two rooms (a Jacuzzi on one side and toilet and sink on the other) and made accessible on the back side to the family room.

Maple wood flooring abounds throughout the house. Bonnie had the floors refinished in two of the three bedrooms, all of which are on the second floor with the nursery. She completely redid the main bathroom on the second floor, to include octagon tile flooring, a re-enameled claw foot tub with shower curtain and chrome fixtures reminiscent of the old days, and a Kohler toilet and pedestal sink with chrome fixtures. Although on the smaller side, a sky mural on the ceiling of the bathroom and white-painted wainscoting and walls provides a roomy, open feeling.

Bonnie has wallpapered several rooms and the kitchen. All of the first floor rooms flow into each other in bright, sunny space. A unique characteristic of the archways is how close the tops are to the ceilings, which helps to create a sense of wide open space.

Congratulations to Bonnie on carrying on the renovation effort and a beautiful home.

The ANA Is Online!!

Read current and prior editions of the *Astor Outlook* newsletter and minutes from the ANA board meetings, sign up to receive e-mail on current events in the neighborhood, send e-mail to board members, request an Historic Plaque order form, order the ANA calendar, view its sponsors, and link to other sites of interest to Astor neighbors at <http://www.astorneighborhood.org>.

Ice Skating Party

A perfect day and ice greeted the skaters for this year's party. Approximately forty people took to the ice and refreshed themselves with cookies and hot chocolate that afternoon.

A warm thanks to the neighborhood for making this quite the success. See you next year.

Wine Tasting Event Success

More than 125 people attended this year's event. Wine Premiere had four of its best vendors at stations featuring wines from four different countries: Spain, Australia, Chile, and Italy. Participants could walk around and sample the wines, and then settle in for a comfortable evening with their favorite wine and conversation with friends and neighbors.

The food, catered by áBravo, was such a hit that more had to be ordered during the evening. People seemed to thoroughly enjoy this event, if the look on their faces was any indication. The oversized sofas, chairs, and bistro tables added to the eclectic atmosphere.

ANA neighbors also had the opportunity to wander through Wine Premiere's store and talk to its knowledgeable staff regarding the best selection and information on many types of wine. We thank Wine Premiere for its generosity in hosting this event.

We can't wait to top this event next year.

Fall Fest

The first annual Fall Fest, held at Titledown Brewing Company last October, was another ANA success story. Approximately 75 people attended the event in the relaxing atmosphere of Titledown's second story.

Titledown offered nine of its custom brews, specialty SNO-CAP root beer, and many other beverages. The hors d'oeuvres were plentiful and delicious, and the games on the second level added to the fun.

Fall Fest is a wonderful compliment to the Wine Tasting Event, and we hope to see it become just as big of an event. Thank you for making it such a success.



Aldo Leopold Community School, a K-8 Green Bay public school choice program located at 622 Eliza Street, is holding its third annual "Spring Thing" fundraiser on Saturday, April 27, from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. This community-wide event features a kid's carnival and silent auction with over 200 items, such as local restaurant gift certificates, weekend escape packages, and original artwork. Food will also be available, including homemade melt-in-your-mouth tacos and bakesale items.

Proceeds benefit the Aldo Leopold Parent-Teacher-and Others organization, which underwrites school-related activities and programs. Please contact Cindy Bawner at 432-6643 for more information.

The ANA wishes to thank Seaway Printing on east Main Street for printing the *Astor Outlook*, gratis. We appreciate its continued support.

Make a Difference Day

The ANA would like to thank the many people who came out last October to help clean-up the Astor Neighborhood Association sponsored portion of the Fox River Trail, which runs from Porlier Street to Marine Street by Zeller's Sport shop. Tires, metal barrels, wire, and trash in general were removed from the area.

In April of last year, the ANA sponsored a clean-up on the day that the national Make a Difference Winners were announced. Many neighbors participated in that clean-up as well, which made the fall clean-up that much easier.

This year, the ANA will sponsor a River Clean-up Day with Aldo Leopold on April 27. Please meet at the Fox River Trail head on Porlier and Adams at 9:30 a.m.

This is a small but important recurring event that sets a good example for the neighborhood and community. We appreciate your continued support in this ANA endeavor.

House Kudos: *If you know of someone in the neighborhood who has worked hard at fixing, improving, or updating a home, please call or e-mail any board member for some Astor Outlook House Kudos.*

Web Site Re-design

The Astor Neighborhood Association web site is in re-design. If you have pictures of the neighborhood, past or present, which you would like included on the web site, drop them off or mail them to Eric Vandeveld, 930 S. Clay Street or e-mail them to eric@astorneighborhood.org. If you drop-off or mail pictures, leave a return address and they will be returned to you. This is a great way to show off your house and to be a part of the new design.

TREASURER'S REPORT – is available on request.

Astor Park Historic House Walk

The St. Vincent Hospital Auxiliary is sponsoring the Astor Park Historic House Walk on Wednesday, May 22, 2002, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Four houses are being featured on the walk:

- Schmitt Home, 509 Spring Street
- Pollack Home, 820 S. Jackson Street
- Emmel Home, 636 S. Jackson Street
- LaRock Home, 119 S. Jackson Street

Tickets are \$15.00 in advance or \$20.00 the day of the event, if tickets are still available. Only 1,000 are being sold. You may purchase tickets from the St. Vincent Hospital Gift Shop at 835 S. Van Buren Street or call the gift shop at 433-8266 regarding additional locations. All proceeds benefit the St. Vincent Regional Cancer Center, except a small portion, which benefits the ANA.

You may call the St. Vincent Volunteer Services desk at 433-2561 for more information.

Mayor's Beautification Board Needs Members

The Mayor's Beautification Board needs members. Committees recommend projects around the city that aesthetically enhance the beauty of Green Bay for awards in particular categories.

The board meets every first Tuesday of the month at the Senior Center, across from the Police Station, at 4:00 p.m. All you need to do is attend the next meeting.

Hazelwood Closed for Season

Hazelwood Historic House Museum is closed for the winter and will re-open for weekends in May. Starting June 1, 2002, it will be open every day except Tuesdays. Watch for Hazelwood events in the next issue of the *Astor Outlook*.

Astor Neighborhood Association, Inc.
526 S. Monroe Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54301

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please contact any board member with comments, questions, or concerns about the neighborhood or the Astor Neighborhood Association.

Directors:

Roxanne Chronert	433-9263
Pat Frase	437-6969
John Gower	435-4441
Michael Hale	437-2302
Mark Jackson	435-4667
Dan Madigan	432-4722
Laura McCoy	437-4853
Bob Brault (Emeritus)	

Officers:

Treasurer:	Denise Schleis	437-9134
Secretary:	Paul Schleis	437-9134
Vice-President:	Teppie Schueller	432-0523
President:	Michael Nass	430-3226

The board wishes to thank John Corpus for editing the *Astor Outlook*. You may contact John with any newsletter questions or concerns at 430-1429 or mendingwall@msn.com.

The mission of the Astor Neighborhood Association is to maintain the integrity, vitality, and diversity of the Astor community through the protection and preservation of its history, neighborhoods, and architecture.

Board meetings are open to the public and are held from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the East Central Family Neighborhood Resource Center, unless otherwise indicated. All residents of the Astor neighborhood are welcome. The next three **board meetings** are on:

March 18th at First Evangelical Lutheran Church
April 15th
May 20th

Advertising

Please visit the web page or e-mail address of our sponsors, or link to them via hyperlinks on the ANA web page. Postal regulations prohibit the Astor Neighborhood Association, as a not-for-profit entity, from advertising the phone number and address of any for-profit entity. To place an ad, contact John Corpus at 430-1429 by the next article-submitting deadline. Cost: \$20 per business card size ad.