

The Gladstone

of the Greater Gladstone Civic Association

Gladstone Manor is:

Ardmore Ave. (to Bryn Mawr Ave.) • Bryn Mawr Ave. (to Windermere Ave.) • Deforest Rd. • West Baltimore Ave. (from Burnmont Rd. to Windermere Ave.) • Eldon Rd. • Gladstone Rd. • Madison Rd. • Mansfield Rd. • Marlyn Ave. • Martin Dr. • West Stratford Ave. (to Windermere Ave.) • Walsh Rd. • East Windermere Terr. • Willowbrook Ave. (to Bryn Mawr Ave.)

Building Community Since 1927



April 2012

Home Safety Check

As defined on our web site homes in the Gladstone Manor were built in the 1920s. Gladstone housing at the time had state of the art electrical systems and were fitted with electrical service known as Knob and tubing wiring. Now that we are approaching the century mark of our building techniques we thought it would be interesting to know what is behind many of the walls in our Manor homes.

Knob and tube wiring was an early standardized method of electrical wiring in buildings, in common use in North America from about 1880 to the 1930s. It consisted of single-insulated copper conductors run within wall or ceiling cavities, passing through joist and stud drill-holes via protective porcelain insulating tubes, and supported along their length on nailed-down porcelain knob insulators. Where conductors entered a wiring device such as a lamp or switch, or were pulled into a wall, they were protected by flexible cloth insulating sleeving called loom. The first insulation was asphalt-saturated cotton cloth, then rubber became common. Wire splices in such installations were twisted together for good mechanical strength, then soldered and wrapped with rubber insulating tape and friction tape (asphalt saturated cloth), or made inside metal junction boxes.

Knob and tube wiring was eventually displaced from interior wiring systems because of the high cost of installation compared with use of power cables, which combined both power conductors of a circuit in one run (and which later included grounding conductors).



At present, new knob and tube installations are permitted in the US only in a few very specific situations listed in the National Electrical Code, such as certain industrial and agricultural environ-

ments. In many cases when a home is sold the buyer is requesting that all Knob and Tube wiring is to be replaced prior to settlement.

With all of the electrical appliances currently in use in our homes we should make sure we do not over load the capacity of our service or assume our Knob and Tube wiring can handle the voltage requirement of an air conditioner or other major electrical appliance. When possible have a qualified licensed electrician provide a safety check and replace wiring when possible to avoid overloading our almost century old electrical systems.



GGCA Egg Hunt

On Saturday, April 7 over 75 Gladstone residents and friends gathered to celebrate a beautiful spring day at our traditional Egg Hunt. We were back in Marlyn Park following drainage work last year.

After enjoying yummy treats, the hunt kicked off with toddlers in a special hunting area. A few minutes later the other participating children began to search for hundreds of colorful eggs hidden throughout the meadow. The day concluded with children receiving treat bags of candy, stickers, small toys, and a kit to decorate an egg. And for the 6 children who found golden eggs, there were Easter baskets full of goodies.



Environmental Reminder



Last Spring we included a small piece about re-thinking our environmental behaviors, in particular how those behaviors impact our neighbors and our environment this time of year. Please be reminded of such things as blowing grass clippings from the sidewalks after mowing. Your lawns benefit from blowing those clippings back onto your yards and not onto sidewalks or neighbors' property or into the streets. If left on the sidewalks or in the streets, those clippings run off and cause drains to clog when it rains. Also, if you've been consulting your Borough magnet, you know that the yard waste pickups are back to twice monthly.



Not Exactly An Environmental Reminder, But...

Have you received more gift cards than you can use, or ones for establishments you're just not crazy about? Did you know you can sell unwanted cards or trade them for other cards with brands that you prefer? Check out websites like PlasticJungle.com, GiftCardRescue.com, MonsterGiftCard.com, and Cardpool.com. You may have to pay a small listing fee, and you might not get 100% of the face value, but if you don't think you'll use them, these might be good choices. Or you might want to consider "regifting" those unwanted cards. Also, remember that some stores are allowed to charge an inactivity or service fee on a card that's a year beyond the date it was purchased.



"Flash"Backs (from The Manor Flash, 1937-38, exactly as written)

The Democrats dinner in Media was a big success. Lots from Lansdowne went. We will also report any Republican dinners that may be held. The Flash is impartial poltically.

Rowdy, the Hollsiworths new dog said to be a spannell is said to eat only when his food is served to him. It is rummered he also smokes a pipe.



GGCA Website

Did you know that the Greater Gladstone Civic Association also has a website? If you haven't had a chance, or didn't know a website existed, check out <http://www.gladstonemanor.org/>

The goal of the website is to complement the information that typically appears in newsletter and serve as your connection to news, events and general information about Gladstone Manor.

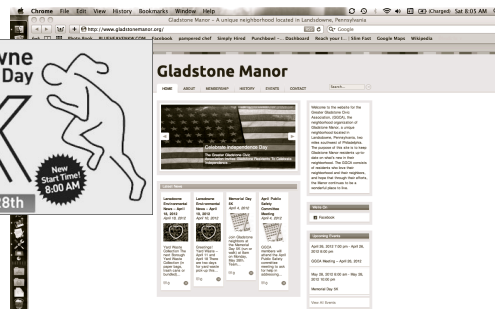
We have improved the website to include more interactive features, such as the ability for you to comment on news, view photos from recent events, read prior monthly meeting minutes and also a contact page to submit feedback and concerns electronically to the Gladstone Manor officers. In addition, thanks to the research from current and former Gladstone Manor residents

and officers, the website also includes a brief history of our neighborhood as well.

As always, we look forward to hearing any feedback from you about the website.

Memorial Day 5K

Join Gladstone neighbors at the Memorial Day 5K (run or walk) at 8am on Monday, May 28th. Team T-Shirts: Groups or organizations consisting of 20 or more participants who register by May 1st can get a special team-colored t-shirt! Details and online registration can be found at <http://lansdownesfuture.org/5k/> Just register by May 1st and indicate that you are with the Greater Gladstone Civic Association.



Visit the GGCA website at www.gladstonemanor.org