



ADNA Monthly Newsletter

www.atlantadna.org
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Submit your articles/events to
 ADNA Newsletter c/o
deboday@yahoo.com

ADNA MEMBERSHIP

The strength of the Atlanta Downtown Neighborhood Association relies on participation by the community members it serves; therefore, we strive to increase membership. Are you a member of the ADNA?

What is the process for becoming a member? It's very simple. Attend three or more ADNA monthly community meetings during the calendar year. Complete the sign-in sheet each time so the membership team has a record of your attendance. That's it! Welcome aboard if this is your third meeting in 2006. If you are a carry-over member from 2005, we thank you for your participation. To maintain your membership in 2006 you should attend at least three monthly meetings and complete the sign in sheets.

Attendance by Month

March = 51
 February = 53
 January = 74

Attended 3 meetings = 16
 (13 are returning 2005 members who have renewed membership for 2006; 3 are new members)

New members:

Deborah Green
 Glade Johnson
 Josh Pressley

Attended 2 meetings = 29

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual writers and not the ADNA, a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization.

Attended 1st meeting in March = 17 (14 of these were not 2005 members)

Total on roster = 141

May 9 Community Meeting
Location: Barry Real Estate
In the new Southern Company Building, 30 Allen Plaza
Topic: Grocery Shopping Downtown

June 13 Community Meeting
Location: Imagine It!
Children's Museum of Atlanta
275 Centennial Olympic Park Drive NW 30313

A SUPERMARKET TO CALL OUR OWN

By Chris Ciovacco
 VP, Public Policy

As Downtown Atlanta continues to add residents via an ever-expanding inventory of new condos, the neighborhood's demand for a supermarket continues to grow. Over 20,000 people live within this densely populated four-square-mile area, a 24% population increase since 1990. With 133,776 people working in Downtown, it is also home to the region's most dense concentration of employment. Additionally, 3.5 million people visit the area annually for conventions, trade shows and tourist attractions. Market analysis indicates that residential market momentum will continue over the next seven years, adding over 7,000 rental or ownership housing units.

Publix seems to be taking the lead locally with a recent opening in Atlantic Station and another supermarket poised to open on Spring Street in Midtown in the coming weeks. We've got a Whole Foods on Ponce and a Publix on Piedmont, but nothing really in walking distance for most Downtown residents.

Our May Community Meeting is designed as an opportunity for representatives from the major grocery companies that serve Atlanta—Publix, Fresh Market, Kroger, and Whole Foods—to come Downtown and meet the neighbors. of adjacent neighborhood associations, Castleberry Hill and Marietta Street Artery, to join us.

We need a significant turnout for this important Community Meeting. Please calendar it now. Tell your friends to do the same. If you have a contact in the supermarket business who should attend the meeting, let us know at downtownatl@hotmail.com, so that we can extend an invitation.

THE ATLANTA DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL & TOUR MAY 20-21

ANNUAL DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL RETURNS MAY 20 & 21 WITH JURIED VISUAL ARTS MARKETS, MORE MUSIC & FAMILY FUN

FESTIVAL KICKOFF PARTY MAY 19, HOSTED BY AMERICASMART

Call the Theatrical Outfit Box Office to get your tickets now (678) 528-1500 or buy online at TIX.com

Ticket prices:
 Loft Tour
 \$15 advance, \$20 door

Kickoff Party at AmericasMart
 \$15 advance, \$20 door

Buy in advance – \$25 for both!
 You can also purchase tix at the April and May Community Meetings.

Mar 14 COMMUNITY MEETING

MINUTES**Georgia-Pacific Building
6:30-8:00pm**

By Whitney Ruser, Secretary

After a brief socializing opportunity, ADNA Board member Camille Smith welcomed 51 ADNA members and guests, including a nice mix of business, residents and interested parties. Georgia-Pacific facilities manager Dennis Forrest also welcomed ADNA to the building and encouraged future use of the building.

VP of Public Policy Chris Ciovacco introduced Cooper Holland of Central Atlanta Progress, who along with Dave Wardell outlined new improvements and programs planned to attract new visitors to Woodruff Park. Although the dog park plan has been eliminated due to space concerns expressed by the Atlanta city government, there is plenty of reason for optimism for downtown residents and businesses:

- Improved cleanliness and security (Ambassadors, Clean Team and a designated Park Attendant)
- Talks with vendors (Chick-fil-A, Starbucks)
- New, portable tables and chairs will replace fixed benches in May (to allow for more flexible seating arrangements)
- Improved lighting (to discourage illegal activities)
- More flowers and improved landscaping
- Regular programs to attract visitors (Jazz on Wednesdays, Lunch on Broad musicians and Green Market on Fridays)
- Special programs ("Atlanta Reads" with Mayor Franklin, film screenings)
- Recreation (chess, bocce ball courts, Wi-Fi, speakers for Satellite Radio, yoga, tango lessons, and jugglers)

Identification that will be printed on the portable tables and chairs, "I belong in Woodruff Park," stems from the numbers

philosophy of Bryant Park (NYC) boosters, "Solution by Dilution." As ADNA supporters and residents, let's all get behind this effort and use the park!

Jennifer Ball spoke about CAP's "Imagine Downtown" campaign to attract developers and investment to the city center. She distributed maps and fliers (which can also be found at www.centralatlantaprogress.org). Immediate improvements to the neighborhood include streetscape and signage.

She also warned of Peachtree St. closing south of Marietta to Alabama St. for viaduct repairs, due to take place beginning in June (a 24-month project) and commuter bus waiting zones that will be relocated to Forsyth St in the same blocks. For further info contact City of Atlanta Department of Public Works.

Heather Alhadeff gave an update about FlexCar, an hourly membership club for commuter car rental. This intriguing program is still under study by Central Atlanta Progress, but the initial focus is on obtaining convenient and inexpensive parking spaces for rental vehicles. If any residents or businesses can help with this (or for more information,) contact heather@centralatlantaprogress.org.

Heather also reported on the Transportation Management Association Parking Study and alternative-mode usage study, which should be completed this summer.

One of the items that came out of the parking study was an idea for an interactive website with a downtown map showing attractions, highlighting nearby parking (number of spaces, cost, location) and proximity to attractions. This would address visitor's perception of limited parking, visitor confusion and repeated trolling for spaces, a source of pollution.

Questions for the speakers addressed the following topics:

- Public feedings at the park (CAP encourages those participating to direct resources and funds to appropriate agencies)
- Capital improvements to Woodruff (putting a walkway through the center where people naturally cross is a prohibitive expense)
- Commuter Rewards Program (see CAP website for cash rewards and incentives to change commuter behavior)
- A perceived increase in panhandling (recent legislation decriminalized panhandling, directing violators to social services. Arrests for disorderly conduct are hard make; violations should be reported to Trudy Boyce (tboyce@atlantapd.org).

MEET THE 2006 ADNA BOARD

By Mary-Elizabeth Harmon
VP, Special Events

1967, and it was a sweltering June day in Michigan... I will spare you my attempts to channel (fill in name of favorite private eye writer here), and the details of my life that has led me from Ann Arbor to Nairobi, Nairobi to Boston, Boston to Baltimore, Baltimore to Seattle, Seattle to D.C., and D.C. to Atlanta. For the moment, and a long moment I anticipate, I've decided to put aside all budding nomadic tendencies and gather moss in Atlanta. Unlike my fellow 2006 ADNA board members who you've had the pleasure of meeting through this column, I neither have my own business nor am I addicted to shoes, although I do very much enjoy wearing them. I'll confess that I even suffered a twinge of dread at the thought of writing about myself, and I still haven't come to resolution about what might interest you as I sit and compose. Well now that I've prepared you for what may prove to be stream of consciousness ramblings on Mary-Elizabeth, let me begin.

Despite having what acquaintances sometimes confuse as a "party girl" exterior and holding the VP of Special Events board position, I'm very content entertaining myself at home, folks. Over the years, I've passed time with hobbies including singing, wanna-be gourmet cooking, calligraphy, greeting card making, and interior decorating. And since I've just erased my street credibility as a disco diva, I might as well share, since that is the purpose of this exercise, that I'm attracted to people who bother to punctuate e-mails (really, I am).

Before I digress too far on that last thought, I'll say that Atlanta has been a good move for me in many ways. The grassroots art scene here has helped me discover that I am more interested in contemporary art than I'd appreciated, both as a consumer and trying my hand at it. Also, more than any other city where I've lived, Atlanta has, more importantly, let me get connected with my community in a way that I feel empowered that I can make a change. I'm starting to sound serious, and although I'm coming to a close and still don't know what I want to say, I do know that I want to keep it light-hearted.

Inspiration has still not come, and four paragraphs are probably sufficiently respectable by way of an introduction. After just reading what I've put on the page, I'm not really sure how I've represented myself. So I invite you all to seek me out at a community meeting, and let me ramble to you verbally. Just keep your eyes peeled for the party girl.

SPOTLIGHT ON DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES: TRIBECA

By Whitney Rusert, Secretary

On one of those beautiful and balmy spring days on Broad Street I had the opportunity to visit Tribeca and interview Derrick Coggins, one of the managers of this two-store clothing boutique

facing Peachtree Street between Poplar and Walton.

Open since 1996, Tribeca is one of a small group of stores (including Straight from the Apple on Amsterdam in Midtown) owned by David and Tanya Bowers. They separated the men's and women's clothing into two storefronts last November.

Derrick characterized their clothing line as contemporary, and fashion-forward but not trendy and aimed to appeal to a cross-section of age groups and income levels. Their target market is the buppy / yuppy seeking dressier casual and play clothes.

Specializing in natural fibers, Tribeca women's store has business casual suits and linen separates, summer tops and club-wear, as well as accessories (jewelry, shoes, hats, belts, sunglasses and an intriguing display of body stockings.) My first impression when I walked in the store was of the color pink – it must be this season's front-runner. Prices are very reasonable and a few of last season's or overstocked items are often found on discount at the back of the store.

Men's store items included Italian wool and gabardine (year-round material) suits of "urban contemporary" design, and linen camp shirts to dress up every man's jeans. As in the women's store, they also had accessories: hats, shoes, belts, sunglasses and cufflinks. Guys, if you are hard to fit (as in Big and Tall, not Hate to Shop) Tribeca may have what you're looking for, with a selection for everyone.

Tribeca is currently in talks with Central Atlanta Progress to stage a fashion show in Woodruff Park and Broad Streets during May, showcasing their clothing and giving a new look to our very own downtown park. As a community and ADNA supporter, and one of Downtown's few independent retail venues, Tribeca Stores deserve a stop on your walkabout downtown! Their hours are

Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.



Every Wednesday from 5:30-8 pm through September, Centennial Olympic Park features Wednesday Winddown, a live concert by some of the best national and local music acts. Everything from jazz to contemporary music is performed live on stage at the Southern Company Amphitheater.

JAZZ AT THE MARK

On Wednesday April 19, Fairlie-Poplar's The Mark Ultralounge will launch a new and exciting live jazz series catering to Downtown's sophisticated denizens looking for an intimate live music atmosphere. Downtown resident Marc Parham and local celebrity Steven Charles amongst other weekly guests are guaranteed to bring you an evening of quality entertainment. Every Wednesday after this summer's concert series in Centennial Park look out for the underground jam session at The Mark featuring some of Atlanta's top jazz musicians.

First show starts at 8:00 pm. Cover: only \$7. Drink specials all night & light appetizers available.

This is a first and we are trying to create an environment that Downtown dwellers will support and enjoy so we are looking for input from neighbors and the Georgia State School of Music.

The Mark Ultralounge
79 Poplar Street
Atlanta, GA 30303
www.themarkatlanta.com
www.themarkfridays.com



Grab your lunch and get out of the office for a midday

break filled with R&B, jazz and reggae music in Centennial Olympic Park's Southern Company Amphitheater! Music @ Noon is held every Tuesday and Thursday in April, May, June, July and September.

THE RETURN OF THE WINECOFF

On April 21 @ 10 am there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for reconstruction on the Winecoff Hotel, at the corner of Ptree and Ellis. As most of you know, the Winecoff has been one of Downtown's greatest eyesores for decades and numerous attempts have been made to interest developers in the property. It looks like it may finally happen. Its location, at the visual and geographical edge of Fairlie-Poplar, makes it an important piece in the improvement of the neighborhood. Please plan to attend this historic event!

BE ALERT WHILE USING YOUR CAR

By Glade Johnson
Advantage Protective Services

Glade Johnson owns a security company in downtown Atlanta.

Recently, a woman obtained some cash while inside a bank. As she left the bank in her car, she realized she had a flat tire. A man offered to help her change the tire. She exited the car. The man grabbed the envelope with money that was on the front seat and fled. He jumped in a waiting van, which the woman recognized was parked beside her at the bank. In all likelihood, the thieves flattened her tire so they could do exactly what they did. This is not an isolated case.

Another "technique" involves the thief putting a piece of paper on your back window. You get in your car, start it, begin to drive away, notice the paper, put your car in park and get out to remove the paper. When you do, the

thief jumps in your car and speeds off. You have just been carjacked.

Before leaving your car, make sure there is nothing left in sight to attract a thief. You should put those things away before you even park, because when you stop, open your trunk, and put things in there, it draws attention to the fact that something valuable may be in your trunk.

Any time you are in a parking lot and you return to your car, look around you. Make sure your back license plate is still on your car. Observe others around you. Make sure your tires are not flat. Look in the car to make sure no one is hiding in the back seat or on the floor.

And never warm your car up in your parking garage/lot, and go back into your condo/apartment to wait for a few minutes. It takes three seconds for someone to jump in your car and drive away with it!

Cars are a wonderful way to travel, but in today's world, they are dangerous in more ways than one!

Also from Glade:

"Yesterday I went to the Downtown Security Forum lunch. The APD advised us that they are not enforcing the panhandling ordinance (big surprise), but they will enforce the disorderly conduct ordinance. Lt. Boyce wants emails as to exactly where and when someone is approached by a panhandler. They have an undercover team that will work an area where there are problems: tboyce@atlantapd.org."

CENTENNIAL OLYMPIC PARK NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Now's your chance to help! In addition to individual volunteers, we also welcome groups.

Volunteering is a great team-building experience for your company, school, or group. We'll organize the program for you; all you need to do is provide the people. If you are interested in volunteering at Centennial Olympic Park and would like to sign up, please contact the **Volunteer Coordinator, Jennifer Tinker**, at **404.223.4412**

Atlanta WINGS Festival

April 22-23
1- 8pm
Auburn Avenue b/w Piedmont & Fort St
www.atlantawingsfestival.com
678-254-3604

The April Downtown Dwellers Happy Hour will be hosted by Peachtree Center Athletic Club (227 Courtland Street) on Friday, April 28, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please join your neighbors for beverages, munchies and fantastic prizes. Questions can be emailed to toast30303@gmail.com ... See you there!

TREES ATLANTA TO PICK UP ITS DOWNTOWN ROOTS

By Pablo Henderson
VP Membership

After 21 fruitful years in the historic Fairlie-Poplar District, Trees Atlanta is moving to plant its own roots in a new facility located in nearby Reynoldstown. The charity has been using donated space provided by the generosity of Robert & Company but the building will soon house the new Federal Court of Appeals extension. The newly purchased Trees Atlanta facility will serve as both headquarters for the charity and blossom into a local Resource Center. This exciting growth will allow for the implementation and launch of the Arboretum Program focusing on trees unique to specific communities in intown neighborhoods. Whilst marking native trees with both street names and latin names, the tags will also provide people with

interesting facts ie: the Cotton Wood Tree is commonly used in the manufacture of baseball bats. In addition, Trees Atlanta will be blooming new relationships with local businesses as they partner to distribute walking tour maps and conduct annual guided walks in neighborhoods such as Inman park, Reynoldstown and Oakhurst. When asked what she will miss most about Downtown, director of communications Cheryl Kortmeier said she felt that they were leaving the heart of the city and that the shade provided by the trees made the area so nice to walk. The first and oldest trees to be planted some twenty years ago by the organization are the Bradford Pears found near the Macy's garage at Cone and International.

Next CAP/ADID Town Hall Meeting: April 21

Don't miss the CAP/ADID Town Hall meeting on Friday, April 21, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta in Downtown.

Includes a sneak peek at the renovations planned for the old Winecoff Hotel that will be unveiled later that day at 10 a.m. Join us after the meeting to attend the groundbreaking event at the hotel site at 176 Peachtree Street in the heart of Downtown.

To attend, RSVP to richorr@centralatlantaprogress.org by April 18.

SAVE THE DATE! NEXT FOCAL BOOK SALE JUNE 8, 9, 10

The Friends of Central Atlanta Library (FOCAL) will host their next book sale from Thursday, June 8, through Saturday, June 10, at the library: One Margaret Mitchell Square. More info will appear in the May newsletter.

For more info or to make a donation of books:
info@focalweb.org

Did you know that FOCAL also tends a great, ongoing book sale in the lobby of the library? Great

children's books and lots of paperbacks await you. Prices run about \$1 to \$2 per book. This year's Board members include Downtown residents Dorthey Hurst (2006 President), Erin Raffield, and Pam Joiner.

NEIGHBORHOOD BYTES

By Camille Smith

"CNN Saturday Morning" is a great way to jump start the weekend. Early on a recent Saturday, my attention was drawn to one of the news magazine's CNN Presents specials. It was entitled, *Fat Chance* and offered "**Seven Habits of Highly Effective Dieters**". Here they are:

1. Expect failure but keep trying
2. Don't deny yourself
3. Weigh yourself often
4. Exercise an hour per day
5. Add little bits of activity into your daily routine
6. Eat a high carbohydrate, low fat diet
7. Eat 5 small meals a day, starting with breakfast

Fat Chance originally aired on May 4, 2002. For the complete report: CNN.com/Transcripts. Elizabeth Cohen, CNN medical correspondent, along with Dr. Jim Hill of the University of Colorado and Dr. Rudolph Leibel of Columbia University "weigh in" on this discussion. **It is about an elite group of approximately 3,000 people who have lost weight and kept it off for years!** In 1994, Dr. Hill started the **National Weight Control Registry**. Participants are required to maintain a 30 lb. weight loss for at least one year. The average member maintains a weight loss of 67 lbs. for 51/2 years. The **Seven Habits of Highly Effective Dieters** provides some hope for this age old battle. It is about setting rules for ourselves and being

realistic. I have always believed in giving in to my "sweet tooth" because, otherwise, I will eat more trying to eat around what I crave most. I also try to buy single servings whenever possible. Finally, with regard to weighing yourself often, this is tricky for me. Yes, you need to do it, but I also try to find an outfit that I want to wear comfortably. When I succeed, what a great feeling. Bon Appetit and Good Luck!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Recently, the local media have provided a good deal of coverage to infill development in Atlanta. As intown neighborhoods that were once separated by sizable tracts of vacant land begin to connect, adjacent neighborhood associations will find they have much more in common than they did just a few years ago. Recognizing this, next week the ADNA Board of Directors will host an historic supper meeting with the boards of the Castleberry Hill Neighborhood Association and the Marietta Street Artery Association. We'll come together over a meal to get to know one another, discuss mutual interests and challenges, and, in particular, plan for the May 9 Community Meeting, which will focus on recruiting a major grocery store to Downtown. This is something in which all three neighborhoods have a strong vested interest. We are thrilled that our nearby peer organizations are encouraging their members to attend. So, in addition to seeing familiar faces at the May meeting, you'll have a chance to meet some new "neighboring neighbors," too. This is just another way in which the 2006 ADNA Board is carefully building a foundation for the longterm residential future of Downtown.

Jay Tribby