



GRACELAND WEST NEWS

December 2006 • A Publication of the Graceland West Community Association

GWCA Calendar

GWCA General Meeting & Holiday Potluck

Tuesday, Dec 5th, 7pm
Lake View High School



Caroling Party

Sunday, Dec 10th, 4pm
Ranalli's

1522 W. Montrose



CAPS Beat 1922

Dec 6th, 7pm

Feb 7th, 7pm

4701 N. Ashland

1st Wednesday of even months



CAPS Beat 1923

Jan 9th, 7pm

Mar 13th, 7pm

4100 N. Greenview

2nd Tuesday of odd months



GWCA Council Meeting

Thursday, Jan 11th, 7:30pm

Christi Lowell's

4048 N. Clark, #1

RSVP Christi: 525-2426



GWCA General Meeting

Thursday, Feb 15th, 7pm

Lake View High School



Spring Fling - Neighborhood Activity

Saturday, Mar 31st

Activity and Location TBD

Call Barb Sullivan

292-9861

UPCOMING EVENTS

GWCA Garden Walk

Sunday, Jun 3th

Details TBD

Call Tim McGonegle

312-501-7686



GWCA Garage Sale

Saturday, Jun 9th, 7pm

Details TBD

Call Christi Lowell 525-2426



GWCA Fest

Saturday, Sept 8th

Details TBD

Call Barb Sullivan 292-9861



GWCA Holiday Potluck Dinner

GWCA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday December 5th, 7 PM

Lakeview High School Community Room

Experience another GWCA tradition!

GWCA Holiday Potluck Dinner!

GWCA Council Elections!

Meet people who share your enthusiasm
for Graceland West!

Bring donations to Lake View Food Pantry!

Debate the GWCA Budget!



GWCA will provide drinks, plastic silverware,
napkins and tablecloths. Members are asked to bring a salad,
entrée or dessert to share with neighbors.

GWCA Council Elections

GWCA members will elect three new members to the council
at the December Meeting. You could be one of them.

GWCA needs neighbors who enjoy participating in GWCA
events to participate in the board as well. That way GWCA makes
sure the events keep occurring every year. It is a great way to meet
people if you have just moved to the neighborhood!

How is the GWCA council structured?

The council has 9 equal members, no president or executive. It
meets before each GWCA general membership meeting to set the
agenda, plan events and identify issues facing the community.

What are the qualifications for GWCA board members?

You must be a member of the Graceland West Community
Association. A willingness to contribute time (that precious com-
modity) to GWCA to facilitate its events is helpful, too!

How long is my commitment?

Each term is 18 months long. Elections are held every 6 months
when 3 board members' terms expire. That way there are always
6 returning council members who can help you master the routine.

Who do I contact to express my interest?

You can attend the meeting on December 5th and nominate
yourself! You can also contact any current council member (their
phone numbers and emails are listed in the newsletter) or email
them through the GWCA website at www.gracelandwest.org.

Comings and Goings

GWCA welcomes new members:

Bruce Braun of Belle Plaine,
Joan Coogan and **Drew & Jaimee Lumm** from Cullom
Richard Eisenhardt of Cuyler. Richard has been a resident since 1935 when he was born!
Tim & Lesley Daniel, John & Tracy Linesch, Dave Bouhl family, Noni & Connie Urgel, Ann O'Grady and **Reto Gallati** all of Greenview
Amy & Eric Gustafson from Irving Park
Hadassah & Marc Rosen of Pensacola
Mike & Marie Petkusy and **Darrin & Sheila Williams (Ms) Leslie Hatfield** both of Warner

We'd also like to welcome new neighbors on Cullom: **Tom and Kathleen Bannon**, and their three daughters: **Mary Pat (10), Elizabeth (7) and Megan (5)**. The children attend Mt. Carmel school on Belmont.

Christopher Witry, son of **Peg and Larry** of Warner, will graduate from Michigan Tech University on December 16 with a degree in Electrical Engineering Technology. Chris is looking at jobs with electrical power plants or industries that have their own electrical systems. The opportunities that appeal to him will take him out of Illinois and out of Graceland West!

Update on Block Captain Effort Volunteers Still Needed For Certain Streets

The foundations for the Block Captain Project are in place. Most of the streets in our Graceland West community now have at least one volunteer. Block Captains are still being sought for Southport, Clark, Ashland, and the 4100 and 4200 blocks of Greenview. If you are interested in serving for this neighborhood improvement effort, please contact form@gracelandwest.org expressing your interest or curiosity in this role.

Additional volunteers are welcome even for those streets that are already represented, as a team approach is helpful. The goal is to have two or even three Block Captains per street as the effort is implemented fully.

The Block Captain role is a grass-roots leg of GWCA. Each block encounters unique challenges. Residents can use the Block Captains to network issues such as crime and quality of life problems.

Did you happen to see neighbor **Diane Dorsey** of Greenview at the Next Theatre this fall? She portrayed the servant in the production of "Helen", a contemporary riff on the story of Helen of Troy. Critics described her performance as terrific!

Eileen Friestad of Greenview recently returned from a cooking vacation in Tuscany at the Toscana Saporita Cooking School under the tutelage of Sondra Lottian and her exceptional staff of chefs. The school is near the beautiful Tuscan seaside town of Viareggio located within a villa surrounded by olive groves. The cooking school was exceptional. The food and wine out of this world and daily tours to some of the surrounding sites such as Pisa and Lucca made for an unforgettable experience. Eileen would highly recommend this vacation and should anyone like to talk to her about it, you can email her at conlangirl@yahoo.com.

There are no new babies to announce but there is a new puppy. A long-time GWCA resident, our Black Lab **Molly**, is going strong at 9, and has welcomed a new canine member to her family at 1472 W. Belle Plaine. **Licorice** is a small Black Lab mix, and they are having a great time together. Anyone can stop by to visit the new addition!

Announcements for Comings and Goings may be sent to djameson@jameson.com

Annual GWCA Holiday Caroling Party

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 10th for our annual Holiday Caroling party. We'll gather at Ranalli's Up North (north side of Montrose, just west of Greenview) around 3 pm. After a little eating, drinking & socializing we'll venture out into the neighborhood to raise our voices in song to cheer up the holidays for some of our neighbors. Weather permitting, we'll serenade much of GWCA ... if it's nasty, we'll hurry back to Ranalli's for more merry making! You don't need to have a great voice or perfect pitch, just a desire to spread some good cheer!

Would you like to have the GWCA singers stop by your home? Come to the pot luck meeting and sign up as a destination for the carolers ... or let Barbara Sullivan know by Dec 8th (773) 727-3419 and we'll do our best to stop by.



Annual Cemetery Tour

On Sunday, October 22nd, GWCA members, neighbors, and friends gathered for the annual Graceland Cemetery walking tour. Not intimidated by the gray, blustery weather, 23 living souls joined a guide from Chicago Architectural Foundation for a stroll around one of the most historic cemeteries in the city. Graceland is the resting place of historic Chicagoans Potter Palmer, George Pullman, and Marshall Fields, who was not, as has been reported, turning over in his grave due to recent changes in his namesake stores. After the tour, some of the participants gathered at Ranalli's for dinner and drinks. Thanks to all who participated and to council member Christi Lowell for her help organizing the tour, and Mark at Ranalli's for hosting the dinner afterward.

24th Annual Graceland West Garden Walk

This year's Graceland West Garden Walk was a success even though it competed with bigger events, the World Cup to name one. We had forty-seven lovely gardens participating thanks to the efforts of Donna Forsberg, Anne Maxwell, Susan Hart, Dawn Regan, Terry Baublis and Peg Tomzak

Next year will be our 25th anniversary walk and we would like to make this special. The plan is to do the gardener's dinner again, but we will need more volunteers and fresh ideas. Let's make this our biggest and best yet!

Look for the official announcement at the next GWCA meeting.

Gardening Quotes:

"The wise gardener anticipates June in January."

"Every gardener knows that under the cloak of winter lies a miracle."

"How deeply seated in the human heart is the liking for gardens and gardening."

3rd Annual GWCA Evening Party

The Third GWCA evening party held on Saturday, September 9th, was again, another great evening of food, fun, music and dancing for about 100 of our neighbors. Lisa B and her band sang while we enjoyed the excellent eats and drinks provided by Ranalli's. The Warner Park and Gardens space set the tone and although we were sure it was going to rain, we didn't see a drop during the entire event. Set up and cleanup help (many, many thanks) came from Donna Forsberg, Ann and Steve Bines, Barbara and Timothy McGonegle, Peg Witry and Mark Lohss.

Make the Peanuts Stop!

Do you know anyone that is feeding peanuts to the squirrels in our neighborhood? My two-year-old daughter has a potentially life-threatening allergy to peanuts and we frequently find peanut shells and loose peanuts on our front porch and lawn, where she plays. They are delivered there by squirrels, who like to bury the shells in flower beds, planters, and window boxes--or just scatter them wherever they feel like it. (I have heard the gardeners in our neighborhood grumbling loudly!) It can't be good for the squirrels--and it is clearly not good for allergic children and for those trying to keep their gardens intact. "Please stop giving peanuts to the wildlife!" Thank you for your consideration!

GWCA Garden Club

A seed has germinated! Some GWCA neighbors think a GWCA GARDEN CLUB has taken root. If you would like to fertilize this plant with your interest, enthusiasm and curiosity, contact Donna Forsberg at donnaforsberg@sbcglobal.net or 773-348-1469. We will see how many blossoms emerge to participate!

GWCA Has a Web Site!

Visit www.gracelandwest.org. Dates for upcoming events are available. Didn't get your newsletter?

You can download the latest newsletter from the website. Have a neighborhood issue but don't know whom to contact?

Hit the "contact us" button and email your question to the GWCA board. The appropriate board member will be contacted and respond to your inquiry.

The Web master, Jim Friestad of Greenview, sends out the CAPS reports by group email. If you'd like to receive these reports, contact GWCA through the website and ask to be added to the GWCA email list.

Antique Furniture for Sale

We recently moved and have a few beautiful pieces to sell. Call Karen Salmon at 312/296-3725.

Antique Dresser + Matching Mirror

Beautiful antique dresser in burlled walnut. Excellent condition. Matching wall mount mirror, also in excellent condition. Approximate dimensions: 42"W x 22" D x 34" H.

Dining Table + Chairs

Beautiful, solid oak table with four leaves. Excellent condition. Seats up to eight people comfortably. Four matching oak chairs, also in excellent condition. Style is appropriate for traditional and some contemporary settings. Approximately 4 ft x 4 ft without leaves.

Tutoring at LVHS

Graceland West begins its 5th year of volunteer tutor program for Lake View High School! Would you like to tutor math or science some Saturday mornings from 10:30 until noon? Please volunteer. GWCA has provided math tutoring for algebra, geometry, calculus, trig in past years. The 2007 school year tutoring will begin in November. Please contact either Janice Horwich, GWCA resident and coordinator at jhorwich@sbcglobal.net or Howard Binder, Assistant Principal at hrbinder@cps.k12.il.us

LAKE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL NEEDS FURNITURE

Lake View High School was forced to increase enrollment this year. The teacher's lounge has been converted to a classroom. The teachers' classrooms are in use every period. The flexible, resourceful teachers have converted an unused former boys washroom into a teachers lounge. They have a couple of desks and some folding chairs to use in there. The teachers are looking for a donation of a sofa, loveseat, comfy chair or lazyboy to enhance the set-up. The teachers will pick up the item. They will offer a receipt for a tax write-off. If you can be of assistance, please contact Rachel Bellande of the English Department at 773.616.5213.

Help Prevent Street Flooding

The city provides regular street cleaning to prevent clogged sewers but it is not enough in fall when the curbs are filled with leaves. To prevent flooding:

1. Collect the leaves from your yard in bags. Do not rake or blow them into the street. Make sure your yard cleaning service does not blow leaves into the street.
2. Move your car on street cleaning days so the street sweepers can get all the leaves.
3. Pull leaves away from the storm drain near your house to allow the water to flow even though it might be several houses away!

Many thanks to the many neighbors who abide by these thoughtful practices and make Graceland West a great place to live!

Silent Auction Success

The GWCA fest silent auction was a success, as usual, raising nearly \$900.00 for the GWCA coffers. Many thanks to all contributors, including board members, neighbors, businesses and particularly Cathy Earley, who came through with many items on the day of the auction. Also thanks to Andy Maxwell and Tim McGonegle for their help in closing and cleanup.

Lake View High School-Local School Council Notes

Did you know

- That 83 % of the students at LVHS graduate?
- That 80% of the students go on to some type of higher education?
- That the French class is going to Paris?
- The LVHS Jazz band performs at the Mercury Theater?
- The school encourages athletics and has a no-cut policy?
- The football team plays at Winnemac Stadium on Foster and Damen? (I attended a game. LVHS won over Sullivan and revealed great school spirit!)
- The schools sports program is in full swing. The schedules for all the teams are posted on the LVHS web site: www.lakeviewhs.com.

The enrollment at LVHS has increased to nearly 1500 students. These numbers do include more students from the neighborhood. Eight new teachers and two new counselors have been added to the faculty to handle this increase. The principal, Scott Feaman, attended the last GWCA meeting to hear neighborhood concerns. He has asked Mr. Howard Binder, assistant principal and community tutoring coordinator to act as liaison. He can be reached at hrbinder@cps.k12.il.us.

The faculty patrols the neighborhood daily and wants to build trust and confidence with the community. They are committed to dealing with loitering, littering and speeding. Dismissal congestion remains a concern. Increased staff and police help monitor the situation daily. Local businesses assist in keeping non-High School students from loitering after school. The campus is "open" only to students who have earned a "GOLD CARD" through good attendance, good grades and good behavior.

Neighborhood Safety Tips

Keep lights on! A porch light a day helps keep crime away. Safe Neighborhoods begin with well lit front porches. Please light your front porch and rear entry from dusk to dawn every night of the year.

Icy sidewalks Safe walking to all. Please remove snow and ice from your sidewalk to keep walkways navigable and safe for senior residents. A fall on a slippery sidewalk can result in permanent disability for a senior.

Fences Privacy fences create hiding places for intruders. An easy view of your front and rear doors and windows allows neighbors and police to see and contribute to a safer neighborhood.

Minutes of the Graceland West Community Association General Membership Meeting

The general membership meeting of GWCA was held at LVHS auditorium on the evening of October 10, 2006. Barb Sullivan chaired the meeting and it commenced at 7:15 pm.

Barb Sullivan introduced the board members, 7 of 9 were present.

A motion was made to accept the bill of \$1200 for printing crime watch signs and GWCA info for the Block Captain effort. The motion passed.

Tom Ramsey spoke on the Block Captain effort. The goal is to get 2 representatives from each block - currently there are approximately 15 - 20 captains involved. They will work as a grassroots effort to gather information that concerns the neighbors and work to improve on the issues. People so far polled have commented on: vandals, graffiti, speeding in alleys, stop signs (needs to be handled by Department of Transportation), speed bumps, excess trash, parking and a general concern of an up-tick of crime in the neighborhood...that led to the introduction of our guest speakers:

Officer Jacobs from beat 1923, Officer Deets - one of two full-time security officers working at LVHS, LVHS Principal and LVHS Assistant Principal. Some possible solutions suggested by our speakers are - speed bumps can be requested through LVHS and may happen quicker with their request - possibly by next year.

Neighbors must be diligent to watch and call 911 every time suspicious activity is noticed - kids loitering, sitting in cars during school hours, hanging out - especially in areas where graffiti has been noticed.

Officer Deets mentioned that every school has representatives of almost every gang but LVHS has NO dominant gang trouble. Things have improved over the years. Juniors and Seniors in good standing are allowed to leave for lunch - 5th & 6th periods - other than that, school kids should not be hanging around the neighborhood during school hours.

Several residents then stated instances of graffiti and crime that makes them think things are getting worse in the neighborhood. Some examples - more graffiti, bullet shot into a house, knife planted in a resident's yard, kids loitering, vagrants sleeping in alleys.

The officers again stated that we need to be diligent in calling in all activity as this will lead to more officers patrolling the area and will push the crime out of the neighborhood. It is important to give as specific a description as possible - license plate numbers, description of people and clothing - etc.

If experiencing problems with vagrants sleeping or making a home on property, the owners of the property must call to complain. There is a homeless team specifically designated for our area to get these people up and into shelters if possible. Our area is known as being safe and being generous with handouts so more and more homeless are coming to the area. If reported to police they will drive up and ask them to move on.

It is always important to LOCK all doors and windows - many burglaries are invited with unlocked doors. Also

make sure there is adequate lighting. If cars are outside leave NOTHING in them.

If unsure whether a problem is serious enough for 911 always feel free to call 911 and they will assess the situation and make the appropriate response - to handle or pass on to 311. Get to know your neighbors, pool resources to watch out for each other and crime. It is the best defense.

Next Howard Binder and Janice Horwich spoke on the LVHS tutoring program. More volunteers are needed - especially in math and science. Please show up from 9 - 12 at LVHS.

Motion was made by Barb Sullivan to approve the minutes from the June meeting printed in the last newsletter. The motion passed.

The financial report was presented by Barb Sullivan and approved.

Committee Reports:

► **Cemetery Tour** - Christi Lowell and Keith Johnson. Tour will be Sun 10/22 at 1:30. An architectural docent is assigned to give the tour. Meet at the cemetery entrance - Ranalli's pizza afterwards. A motion for up to \$500 to cover the excess cost of the tour and pizza was passed.

► **Halloween Party** - Jen Kroah has received many donations for the party being held Sun 10/29. Flyers were donated by UPS on Southport. Assignments for the party have been given by street. All volunteers and donations are welcome. There is a 9am set up, the party is from 1 - 4 and 4pm tear down. A motion for up to \$1000 to cover costs of the party was passed.

► **Holiday Caroling** - Barb Sullivan has organized the caroling party to step off from Ranalli's at 3pm Dec 10. After caroling, a dinner will be hosted by Ranalli's. A motion passed for up to \$300 to cover costs of the dinner.

► **Neighborhood Signs** - Tom Ramsey showed an example of a great neighborhood sign used by the Balmoral neighborhood. These will be \$1000 each plus installation. Further investigation will take place for less expensive options - or ways to raise the money for the signs.

► **Old Business** - Tim McGonegle spoke on the ongoing problem of 4136 N. Greenview. We will leave the TRO in place. Tickets were being issued each week by the city which were ignored. The property is now on the nuisance list and will be maintained by the city and billed back to the property owners. A motion was made to send a letter to the alderman on behalf of GWCA requesting action to be taken on this property to "fix the hole".

► **New Business** - Flooding at Greenview and Belle Plaine - a motion was made to send a letter to the alderman on behalf of GWCA to assess the problem and see what can be done to improve the standing water issues.

► **Dec. Board elections** - if anyone interested - please make this known to a current board member.

► **Change to the by-laws** - Tom Ramsey and Jen Kroah worked to make suggestions to the current by-laws to bring these up to date with other non-for-profit organizations that they are used to working with. Please feel free to read these suggestions on the GWCA web site and make any comments. We would like all comments by 11/9. Voting will be at the next general meeting - DEC. 5.

Meeting was adjourned approximately 9:15.

Graceland West Community Association Income & Expense Statement -- January 1-November 3, 2006

Income		Expense	
Contributions Income	40.00	Administrative Expense	44.00
GWCA Fest	3033.26	Contributions	195.56
Interest Income	28.73	Garden Walk Expense	74.16
Membership Dues	1511.00	GWCA Fest Expense	4627.18
Other - Garage Sale	155.00	Newsletter	1424.20
		Program Expense	1127.97
Total Income	\$4782.99	Total Expense	\$7493.07
		Net Income (Loss)	-\$2710.08
Cash Balance			\$7535.83

Thank You Dawn Ragan

GWCA's long time Treasurer, Dawn Ragan, has announced her retirement. GWCA takes this opportunity to express its appreciation for her years of dedicated volunteer service for GWCA's accounting and treasury needs since June, 1991 throughout the past fifteen years. Dawn, a long time resident of Warner Avenue, has been an active GWCA member throughout the years having also served as the chair or co-chair of GWCA's annual Garden Walk for the past number of years. A Master Gardener herself, she has contributed growth and advice to her neighbors in general and Warner Park & Gardens, in particular. Dawn is a past member of the GWCA Board and has logged considerable hours at GWCA's regular meetings, participation and organization of the Garden Walk and has regularly worked the membership table at the annual September block party GWCAFest over the years. Our collective hats are off to you, Dawn. Thank you!

Council Member, Keith Johnson, has volunteered to take over as GWCA treasurer. Thanks Keith.

Many Thanks to Our Retiring Council Members!

Steve Bines, Debbie Frisch, and Barbara Sullivan have served the neighborhood on the council for the past 18 months, and their terms expire in December. All have contributed their time and effort with enthusiasm and high commitment to their tasks.

Steve served as liaison for Graceland West to Lake View High School. He worked with school administration to address neighborhood concerns and was an agent for GWCA's support of the school.

Debbie has been the CAPS coordinator for Beat 1923. She has attended the beat meetings and discussed neighborhood issues with police and alderman office representatives, as well as others in order to create awareness of safety issues among GWCA members and the police and alderman.

Barbara was an event coordinator for the neighborhood, most notably for GWCA Fest. Her experience with the neighborhood and GWCA council helped things to run smoothly.

Graceland West Board Member List

A council of 9 people govern Graceland West Community Association. If you have questions, suggestions or want to participate, contact a council member. Next Board elections in December.

Keith Johnson (7/06-12/07)	883-1356	kj1413@gmail.com	TBD
Jeny Kroah (7/06-12/07)	312-543-0307	jkroah@nextlevelms.com	TBD
Ann Maxwell (7/06-12/07)	528-6677	annie_mg@hotmail.com	TBD
Steven Bines (7/05-12/06)	525-3249	steven_d_bines@rush.edu	LakeView H.S. Liaison
Debbie Frisch (7/05-12/06)	281-1478	derbyfrisch@aol.com	CAPS Coordinator
Barb Sullivan (7/05-12/06)	327-2940	barbarasullivan06@comcast.net	GWCA Fest
Chris Chesne (1/06-6/07)	807-8570	chris@jdcrealty.com	Newsletter Assistant
Christi Lowell (1/06-6/07)	525-2426	christilowell@aol.com	Garage Sale
Tom Ramsey (1/06-6/07)	281-5695	tramseyLSE@aol.com	Community Support



Recycling Options in Graceland West

Mayor Daley has finally thrown in the towel and recognized that the blue bag program is not working. Our ward, along with 6 others, has been selected to pilot a curbside recycling program similar to those proven successful in the suburbs. This new program has all the signs of effectiveness: there will be separate trucks to pick up the recyclables so that they will not get mixed with other trash; we will receive a 96 gallon container (like our black garbage containers) to put out the recyclables; and they will go to a special site that only sorts recyclables. There is no special cost to you-- our taxpayer dollars going to work!

However, the program is not scheduled to begin until August of 2007. Until then, please consider joining our neighborhood's recycling program coordinated by The Resource Center. The Resource Center will allow us to prorate the 2007 fees through the date of the city's scheduled start. For those of you have already participate in the program, THANK YOU! Details regarding 2007 fees will be forthcoming.

For those of you new to the neighborhood, The Resource Center also runs a drop off site for recyclables at 4716 N. Sheridan. For more information about this program, please e-mail Ellyn at earthmomma2@comcast.net.

JOIN TODAY! Graceland West Community Association Membership Form

Date: _____

Type of Membership: \$15.00 Family
(circle one) \$10.00 Individual
 \$2.00 Senior Citizen

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____

(W) _____

(C) _____

E-mail address _____

Make checks payable to: GWCA
Send or drop off CHECK & COMPLETED FORM to:
Kathy Scardina, 4325 N. Greenview, 60613

2007 Proposed GWCA Budget

The budget for the upcoming 2007 year will be posted on the neighborhood website, www.gracelandwest.org. If you are interested, please review this budget! It will also be available at the GWCA General Membership Meeting at Lake View High School, Tuesday, December 5th at 7pm. Please direct any questions to a council member.

STRESSED? TRY YOGA

Join a relaxing, invigorating, joyful yoga class in the neighborhood. We gather with an instructor every Thursday @ 8:30 AM-10:00AM in the basement of a home near Berteau & Hermitage. Beginners are welcome. The class includes all levels. For more info, call Nancy @ 773-348-0980.

Newsletter Staff

Deirdre Jameson, Editor
 djameson@jameson.com
Chris Chesne, Assistant Editor and Board Member
Iris Brenk, Layout

Contributors: Ellyn Bank, Steve Bines, Donna Forsberg, Tim McGonegle, Janet Horwich, Keith Johnson, Jenina Kroah, Karen Lohss, Matt MacDonald, Ann Maxwell, Dawn Ragan, Tom Ramsey, Karen Salmon, Barbara Sullivan and Chris Chesne.

I am interested in volunteering for GWCA in:

- helping plan and organize events/parties
- helping build the GWCA website
- helping write the newsletter
- being a block representative
- helping set up or breakdown events/parties
- helping deliver the newsletter
- being on call to lend a hand
- other _____

Chicago police tell us that the best way to protect against criminal activity is to know and care about your neighbors. To that end GWCA plans to publish the names and phones of the members and mail it to members in February each year.



You have my permission to publish my information in the **GWCA Membership Directory**.
I have circled the information above that I do not want published.

Sign here: _____

Thank you for making this year's Halloween Fest a blast!



Nearly 25 children promptly flocked along Greenview & Pensacola at 1PM to parade their costumes and kick-off the Fest. The weather was perfect... this Fall afternoon could not have been any better!



The witch patiently waited at her table ready with treats and candies. Scary music & sound filled the park over the screams and laughter of about 80 neighbor children.

Some painted their nails black while others opted to wear pirate nails. A few, however, chose to sport spooky tattoos to accessorize for Halloween.



The Hay Treasure Hunt was a big hit. Kids of all ages dug for toys... not minding the mess!

Many didn't mind being wet from apple bobbing either--for what a waste was a lifesaver or another worthwhile toy for the occasion.

Not only did the children take home candies, treats, prizes, and Halloween souvenirs, they also decorated and kept goody bags to carry their stash with.



The kids combined fun with creativity while customizing their own mini pumpkin with paint, feathers, beads, crystals, pompoms, etc.



Just when the haystack treasure was depleted, Gene from Cupcakes shared creep stories to the young ones who attentively sat and listened.



Mark & his Rana III's Crew were ever ready to help and serve drinks with their awesome brats, pulled pork, mac & cheese. Yum!



Thanks to Susan Lynch of Mac on Group for her donation that made our Fall Photo Corner possible.



Many thanks to Tom Bellino of the UPS Store Southport for printing the early flyers, to Harris Bank Uptown who gave all the candies, treats, and decorations in the witch's gazebo, to Jewel who pitched in for the goody bag decoration kits, to Chase on Irving Park & Sheridan who supported the pumpkin decorating table, and to Starbucks Uptown who provided goodies, coffee, and a dutiful give ways for the Fest.

Marlene Grznicki not only helped in setup and tear-down, she also brought the irresistible caramel apples which many claimed to be the best they've ever had!



Thank you to Alderman Gene Schultera and Andrea who awarded the prizes for Best Costume and for the mounds of candy everyone loved.

Finally, thank you to Terry, Donna, Paul, Barbara, Christi, Sharon, Kelly, Steve for all your hard work, to the GWCA Board for helping make this event possible, and to all our neighbors for keeping our fun-filled tradition! See you next year! -J.S.K.