

GRACELAND WEST NEWS

December 2004 • A Publication of the Graceland West Community Association

GWCA Calendar

CAPS Beat 1922 Meeting

7 pm, Wednesday, December 1, 2004 Chase Park, 4701 N. Ashland 1st Wednesday of the month



GWCA Book Club

Thursday, December 2nd, 7 pm Linda Eisenbergs' House 4232 N. Greenview *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin

GWCA General Membership Meeting

December 7th, 7-9pm Lakeview High School Community Room, followed by Annual Potluck Dinner

CAPS Beat 1923 Meeting

7 pm, Tuesday, December 14, 2004 Lakeshore Baptist Church 2nd Tuesday of the month

GWCA Caroling Party

Sunday, December 19th Meet at 4pm, Caroling at 5pm 4240 N. Greenview

CAPS Beat 1922 Meeting 7pm,Wednesday, January 5, 2005 7pm Wednesday, February 2, 2005

GWCA Book Club

Thursday, January 7, 2005, 7 pm Marla Rubin's House 4236 N. Greenview *Sister of My Heart* by Chitra Divakaruni

CAPS Beat 1922 Meeting 7pm,Wednesday, January 11, 2005 7pm Wednesday, February 8, 2005



December General Membership Meeting & Potluck Dinner

Tuesday December 7th, 7 PM Lakeview High School Community Room

GWCA Board Elections to be held Review and Approval of 2005 GWCA Budget

Annual GWCA Potluck Dinner following the meeting Come out to share a night of holiday fun with the GWCA neighborhood. Please bring a dish to share that serves 6. GWCA will supply drinks, paper plates and silverware for the event.

We will also be collecting donations for the Lakeview Food Pantry also, so please share some holiday cheer with those less fortunate this year.



GWCA Annual Caroling Party

Sunday, December 19th 4:00 PM Meet at the Maxwell House for pre-party warm-up and holiday cheer 4240 North Greenview

5:00 PM Caroling in the "hood".

 If you want carolers to come your door, tape your newsletter to your door or call Tim or Ann to let them know you would like a visit from the carolers.

6:00 or 6:30 PM Light supper and post caroling warm-up.

Meet at the home of Sullivan/McGonegle, 4117 North Greenview Even if you don't carol, you are invited to attend the supper.

> Please RSVP: Ann 528-6677 or Tim 327-2940 By December 17th



Comings and Goings

Farewell to **Tracy**, **Kevin**, **Livia and Henry Kramer** who are leaving Cullom Avenue at the end of the year. The addition of baby brother Henry earlier this year required that they expand to larger quarters.

Good bye to Finbarr O'Callaghan and Jim Chrisopoulos. Finbarr served as a GWCA board member and Jim recently helped complete the long overdue audit of the GWCA financial records.

Welcome to new GWCA Members

Michael & Jennifer Thiel, Belle Plaine Bryan Mills & Rebecca Blovin, Berteau Greg & Julie Dingens, Greenview Dave Wejroch, Greenview,

Welcome to new Neighbors

John McCarthy now resides on Warner in Finbarr and Jim's former home.

The new rowhomes on Southport are nearing completion. **Curtis Schlott** has taken up his residence there.

The extensive rehab by INKA partners of the building on the NW corner of Cullom and Greenview is complete and landscaped invitingly. Welcome to the new owners; Verona McMahon, Colleen Flynn, Joseph and Colleen Simpson, Jill and Michael Mackie, Gerry Basta and friend Amy, Sue Pachera, Andrew and Jaimee Lumm, Nikki Foustis, Tara McCafferty, Hope Betram, Monisha Kaplan and Chris Lozier, Joan Coogan, and Michelle Bella.

New babies

Libby and Dimitri Christopoulos of Berteau welcome their new daughter Elena Elizabeth as well.

New Business

Lynne Bingamon of Hutchinson recently retired from 37 years as a teacher in the public schools. She is opening Petite Feet-Children's Shoes and Accessories on Southport. The Grand Opening is scheduled for Dec 10th and 11th, but you can also check it out during the during the Holiday Stroll on Southport Friday, Dec. 3rd from 5 to 11 pm., 1422 W. Berteau, 348-4198 or djameson@jameson.com

BUDGET ITEMS	Anticipated Expenses	Anticipated Income	Net Income
Community Support	A 750	*	
LVHS Beautification/corners/Warner P&G	\$750 \$1,000	\$- \$-	
Subtotal	\$1,000 \$1,750	⊅- \$-	\$(1,750)
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Events	¢000	¢000	
Garage Sale Garden Walk	\$200 \$900	\$200	
GWCA Fest	\$7,000	\$10,000	
Halloween Party	\$750	+ ,	
Subtotal	\$8,850	\$10,200	\$1,350
Communications			
Newsletter/Newsletter Delivery	\$3,000	\$-	
Website & Kiosks	\$250	\$- \$- \$-	
Subtotal	\$3,250	\$-	\$(3,250)
25th Anniversary			
25th Anniversary Commemoration	\$4,000	\$- \$-	
Subtotal	\$4,000	\$-	\$(4,000)
Organization			
Membership	\$150	\$2,500	
Meetings / Administration	\$600	4	
Advertising / Donations to Balance	ф 7 50	\$6,250	# 0.000
Subtotal	\$750	\$8,750	\$8,000
TOTAL	\$18,600	\$18,950	\$350

GWCA Board Elections to be Held in December

Would you like to become more involved in the GWCA Community? Now is the time as the GWCA Board is looking for 3 new members! The Board has 9 members and is a board of equals, there is no executive so each member has an equal vote. The board meets in advance of each GWCA membership meeting to set the agenda and identify issues facing the community. The only qualification for becoming a Board member is your your commitment and willingness to work on behalf of the GWCA organization to continue its existing programs and add innovative new programs to GWCA's annual calendar. The term a for being a Board member is 18 months and elections are held every 6 months when 3 of the Board



members' terms expire. Our thanks go to the following retiring board members: Ann Bines, Debbie Frisch, and Seri Porter whose terms expire at the end of the year. Elections will be held at the December meeting so if you are interested in serving or would like more information on the topic, please contact members of the Nominating Committee: Debbie Frisch <u>derbyfrisch@aol.com</u> or Barbara <u>Sullivanbsullivan4117@aol.com</u>. If you want to learn more about what the role entails, please contact one of the current GWCA Board members to discuss the topic in more detail.

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Warner Park and Gardens Halloween party was a huge success with incredible weather, a great turnout, spooky stories, wonderful treats and plenty of crafts and games for everyone. We would like to give special thanks to all the volunteers (Bob Flannery, Alice Geis, Julie Gross, Keith Johnson, Daina Lyons, Cindy O'Donnell and Claire O'Grady) for their enthusiasm and hard work, to Alderman Schulter for providing Halloween candy and, most importantly, to Warner Park and Gardens and to GWCA for their generous sponsorship.

GWCA wants to thank **Sharon Langshur** and **Kelley Shields** for coordinating the annual neighborhood Halloween Party again this year. It's heartwarming to live in a neighborhood with great traditions and great people who donate their time to keep the traditions going.

Attempted Break in on Greenview

GWCA BOOK CLUB

Do you love to read books and discuss them with others ?

Then consider attending the next GWCA Book Club Meeting on Thursday, December 2nd, 7 PM at Linda Eisenberg's house, 4232 N. Greenview. The Club will be reviewing the book *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin. Please call Linda to let her know that you plan to attend, 773 248 1078. Hope to see you there !

MUSIC LESSONS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

Does anyone in the GWCA neighborhood teach piano or other instruments to kids in their home? I'd like my kids to be able to walk to their music lessons. If you know of someone, please call Alice at 773 883 1356.

At 11:15 am on Wednesday Nov.17, someone tried to break into the front of Tom Geary home on Greenview. The alarm was on and scared the intruder off. Apparently, a construction worker got a description. Remember, crime can happen in the middle of the day.

GWCA Council Members

Ann Bines	525-3249
Debbie Frisch	281-1478
Laura LeCoque	348-4187
Ann Maxwell	528-6677
Tim McGonegle	327-2940
Dale Petersen	281-4546
Seri Porter	296-1454
Bob Flannery	549-7472
Jane Huber	296-4200

annbines@yahoo.com derbyfrisch@aol.com ecoque@sbcglobal.net annie_mg@hotmail.com tmcgonegle@aol.com drpchicago@aol.com serip@msn.com flannerybob@yahoo.com jhuber@stl-inc.com Beautification CAPS Coordinator GWCA Fest Auction Newsletter Delivery Website/Event Membership Family Networking Alderman Liaison Newsletter Assistant

A council of 9 people govern Graceland West Community Association. Contact these people with ideas and issues concerning our neighborhood.

Beat 1922 Report Berteau to Lawrence, Clark to Devon November 3, 2004 Meeting

Six police officers including: Mike Haas, Manny Mendoza, Heidi Looney, and Kelly Simz, the Community Policing Officer; 2 reps from Alderman Schulter's office; Faye Patterson, the CAPS liaison for Beat 1922 and 14 neighbors, representing GWCA, Ravenswood and other neighborhoods were in attendance.

Subjects Discussed:

No crime statistics were available this month. New in-car computers, funded by Homeland Security monies, will be a huge asset to officers. They hope to have the monthly statistics available again in the next couple of months.

Issue of the Homeless in the Precinct

American Indian Center:

Motion sensitive lights were installed at the American Indian Center, and one of the directors spent the night outside of the Center in order to advise trespassers that their presence would not be tolerated. Local residents stated that the situation has improved greatly since last month.

Church/Food Pantry located at Wilson & Hermitage: A neighbor of the food pantry and church stated that homeless people have been confrontational to people walking home from the train, have rummaged through area garbage cans leaving debris, and have taken to sleeping under the pine trees in front of the church, mainly on Tuesdays, which coincides with the weekly Open Pantry. Neighbor attempts to speak with the

Fire Closes West Lakeview Pantry

A fire in the early morning of October 14, has forced the temporary closure of the West Lakeview Pantry at 1414 W. Oakdale. The fire, which is still being investigated, destroyed virtually everything within the basement site. The site had recently been renovated after the June 2003 merger with the Lincoln-Belmont Pantry. Losses will certainly be in the tens of thousands of dollars. Pantry staff are working diligently to ensure that clients from that site are able to access food through the East Lakeview site.

The Lakeview Pantry serves low and fixed income people in our area, providing both food and clothing. Should you be interested in assisting Lakeview Pantry during this time, please contact Gary Garland at 773-525-7718. pastor have not yielded results. The Police said they would contact the pastor about the situation.

Vehicular Homicide at Sunnyside and Greenview

Murder charges have been brought against the driver of a stolen car that hit and killed a 6 year old in front of the Spanish Christian Church at Sunnyside and Greenview. A court date on the charges is pending.

The next Beat 1922 Caps Meeting will take place the first Wednesday of December, December 1, 2004.

Beat 1923 Report October 12, 2004 Meeting

The CAPS meeting for Beat 1923 met on Tuesday, November 9, at 7:00 PM at Lakeshore Baptist Church. Eight police officers and a CAPS organizer were in attendance. The boundaries of Beat 1923 are Damen, Berteau, Clark and Cornelia. The top ten crimes for October in Beat 1923 were:

Theft - 30 incidents, Battery - 16 incidents, Burglary -15 incidents, Deceptive Practice - 10 incidents Motor Vehicle Theft - 9 incidents, Criminal Damage -8 incidents, Assault - 5 incidents, Criminal Trespass -3 incidents, Public Peace Violation - 2 incidents Sex Offense - 1 incident

The next meeting for Beat 1923 will be held Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. at Lakeshore Baptist Church.

Dear Neighbors,

Come enjoy the GWCA Holiday potluck dinner and help a worthwhile charity at the same time!

On Tuesday, December 7, 2004, at 7:00 pm, GWCA will host a holiday potluck dinner in the Community Room of Lakeview High School, prior to the monthly community meeting.

The West Lakeview Food Pantry, located at 1414 W. Oakdale, recently experienced a devastating fire, and as a way to assist them with restocking their shelves for the holidays, we'd like to invite GWCA potluck attendees to bring non-perishable items to the Potluck, to donate to the Food Pantry.

Non-perishable items include soups, canned fruits & vegetables, canned meats and fish, boxed oatmeal and cereals. The Pantry can also receive paper products, health and beauty items such as toothpaste, diapers and ladies' products.

GWCA representatives will collect all donations and drop them off at the Food Pantry. Thanks for your participation!

Minutes of the November 8, 2004 GWCA Membership Meeting 7:00 Lake View High School Community Room

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tim McGonegle at 7:08 p.m. 12th District Commission Forrest Claypool was introduced and presented a recap of recent developments on the property tax relief efforts and the "Save our Homes" ordinance which he introduced to the County Board. Comm. Claypool mentioned the fact that we as a community need to remain focused on taxes in general as they narrowly defeated the requested 140M sales tax increase recently. Claypool's Aide Doug Kushe distributed examples of the Assessor's use of the 2002 market value data as the basis for calculating a reassessment of a typical home with the expanded homeowners exemption (7% assessment cap). This local assessment cap is in place for 3 years. The formula used to calculate your is somewhat difficult. Commissioner Claypool offers assistance to taxpayers in checking their property tax assessment and homeowners exemptions at his office at 4239 North Lincoln Avenue across from the Jewel food store. The office number is 773-832-4642. Commissioner Claypool's website is available at www.forrestclaypool.com.

The minutes of the September 14 Special Membership Meeting regarding the demolition permit for the property at 4136 North Greenview and published in the newsletter were approved as printed. Partial minutes of the September 27 Special Membership Meeting considering a landmark application for a portion of GWCA's boundaries were published in the newsletter. Efforts are still underway to fully present the community questions and answers session with Department of Planning Commissioner Brian Goeken. Members agreed that as the issue may be revisited in the near future, complete and accurate information from the public meeting needs to be prepared. Because of the trend for the demolition of houses within the neighborhood, approval of the minutes was deferred until a complete recap of the meeting is complete. The minutes will be published in an upcoming newsletter and approved at a membership meeting.

The complete listing of all responses to the door to door canvass of the neighborhood re: Landmarking was available for review. The raw totals had been published previously in the newsletter. Based on the information received from the canvass and the membership meeting, the GWCA board delivered a letter, signed by all board members, to the owners of 4136 North Greenview expressing the unanimous objection of the neighbors to the planned demolition. The next day, Alderman Schulter informed us that he had met privately with the owners of the property at their request, they would not reconsider going forward with the demolition. He also said that there was apparently insufficient community support to warrant an expedited landmark application for a portion of GWCA including 4136 North Greenview and the immediate properties.

Copies of a January 1 to October 23, 2004 Profit and Loss Statement from Treasurer Dawn Ragen were distributed. Cash on hand was \$8,168.38. The report did not include all proceeds from GWCA fest and did not include expenses that had exceeded budget projections for 2004. Motions were made and approved to increase the budget for the GWCA website to \$590.00 to allow payment of webmistress Elana Sorkin's invoice, to increase the budget for newsletters to \$2,500.00 to allow for reimbursement for copying costs associated with the multi-page September and October newsletters necessitated by the landmark issue and the upcoming November newsletter, to increase the budget for any remaining expenses associated with the four newsletter kiosks recently installed at the intersections of Greenview and Pensacola, Greenview and Berteau, Greenview and Warner and Clark Street at the Citgo gas station. We also discussed adding a 5th kiosk at Greenview and Cuyler. There is a permanent copy of the newsletter posted at the back of the kiosk flyer box so even if flyers are missing the information is made available.

Ann Maxwell received comments re: late or missing delivery of newsletters in several areas. The next newsletter will come out shortly after Thanksgiving.

A proposed budget for the 2005 year based on a comparison to last year's spend & budget will be posted on the website. We will try to include it in the November newsletter for review the GWCA cash balance continues to be included in the meeting notes and on the website.

Following the publication of a proposed by-laws amendment in the last two newsletter, GWCA approved a reduction of the required number of meetings from six to four. Comments were made that this in no way limits additional meetings and that the association has consistently shown the willingness to undertake community meetings when issues require it. There was some discussion regarding the distribution of the four required meetings to coincide with Spring and the GWCA Garden Walk, a planning meeting for GWCA Fest, the annual meeting held at GWCA Fest the first Saturday after Labor Day and the annual holiday potluck meeting at which elections are held. An effort will be made to publicize any meetings to be held in Lake View High School's Community Room for those members not familiar with the layout of the building. We will post the layout of the LVHS building on the GWCA website also.

Re: Board elections, the nominating committee composed of retiring board member Debbie Frisch and ex-board member Barbara Sullivan, has received one nomination thus far. They will present a slate at the December 7 meeting. Tim McGonegle explained that GWCA is administered by a board of 9 equals, without an executive. The board usually meets in advance of the required or scheduled meetings to plan the agenda. Board members should attend membership meetings as well. GWCA has a 25 year history of neighbors serving as board members for 18 month terms with 3 of the positions turning over every 6 months in June and December. You must be a paid member to run and to vote. Everyone is encouraged to participate and serve as a board member. A list of historical board members can be accessed at the GWCA web site.

Carol Blalock mentioned that the Lakeview Pantry had burned down recently and that she had discussed the possibility of donations with Peg Tomasek. We agreed it was a good idea and have committed to add an item to the newsletter on behalf of the Lake View Food Pantry. We will also request that non-perishable food items be brought to the December 7th meeting for donation to the food pantry. Tim McGonegle agreed to transport the items to the pantry.

Janice Horwich outlined the on-going student tutoring program in place at Lake View High School and introduced LVHS's Howard Binder who presented certificates of appreciation to 15 GWCA members including Terry Baublis, Donna Forsberg, Aaron Gin, Sarah Hamlin Gin, _____.

GWCA has supplied tutors to the program for 2 years. This support has been viewed as a great support by LVHS; students appreciate the gift of time and the real life practical experience the GWCA tutors provide. The school has documented better test scores as a result of the program support also. They are recruiting for additional tutors for Saturdays and after school. Those interested can contact Janice Horwich at jhorwich@sbcglobal.net.

Tim McGonegle let Mr. Binder know that GWCA is interested in partnering with LVHS to commission a 25 year commemoration piece for GWCA in the neighborhood. Mr. Binder agreed to identify someone at LVHS for GWCA to work with on the project.

The meeting concluded at approximately 9:00 at which time the GWCA board conducted its November meeting.

Needed-Newsletter Deliverers

Do you want to be sure your block always gets the neighborhood newsletter delivered in a timely manner? Volunteer to deliver the newsletters. Or you can volunteer to be an alternate when a regular deliverer will be out of town. Contact Ann Maxwell 528-6677 or annie_mg@hotmail.com

JOIN TODAY! Graceland West Community Association Membership Form

Date:		I am interested in volunteering for GWCA in:
Type of Membership: (circle one)	\$15.00 Family \$10.00 Individual	 helping plan and organize events/parties helping build the GWCA website
	\$2.00 Senior Citizen	helping write the newsletter
Name		being a block representative
		helping set up or breakdown events/parties
Address		helping deliver the newsletter
Phone (H)		being on call to lend a hand
(W)		□ other
(CI)		Chicago police tell us that the best way to protect
E-mail address		against criminal activity is to know and care about your neighbors. To that end GWCA plans to publish
Make checks payable to	: GWCA	the names and phones of the members and mail it

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

> 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.

to members in February each year.

Sign here: