

GRACELAND WEST NEWS

December 2005 • A Publication of the Graceland West Community Association

GWCA Calendar

CAPS Beat 1922 Meeting

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



GWCA Pot Luck and General Meeting

6:30pm, Monday, December 12th Linda Eisenbergs' House Lakeview High School



CAPS Beat 1923 Meeting

7 pm, Tuesday, December 13th Lakeshore Baptist Church 2nd Tuesday of the month



GWCA Book Club

7pm, Thursday, December 15th, Meet at Gail Fohrman's' House 11 Green Street gfohrman@hotmail.com



Holiday Caroling Party

Sunday, December 18th, Check website for time and place



CAPS Beat 1922 Meeting

7pm,Wednesday, January 4th 7pm Wednesday, February 1st Chase Park, 4701 N. Ashland



GWCA Book Club

Thursday, January 5th, 7 pm Ann Maxwell's House 4240 N. Greenview 773 528 6677 or annie_mg@hotmail.com Heir to the Giimmering World by Cynthia Ozick



GWCA Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 10th Location and time TBD



CAPS Beat 1923 Meeting

7 pm, Tuesday, January 10th 7 pm, Tuesday, February 14th Lakeshore Baptist Church 2nd Tuesday of the month

GWCA General Meeting

Tuesday, March 7th Location and time TBD

GWCA Holiday Potluck Dinner

GWCA General Membership Meeting Monday December 12th, 6:30 PM Lakeview High School Community Room

Experience another GWCA tradition, GWCA Holiday Potluck Dinner!

Meet people who share your enthusiasm for Graceland West. GWCA will provide drinks, plastic silverware, napkins and tablecloths. Members are asked to bring a salad, entree or dessert to share with neighbors and items to donate to the local Food Pantry. GWCA Board Elections will also be held.

GWCA Annual Caroling Party

Sunday, December 18th

The GWCA Caroing Party has encountered some unforeseen obstacles in arranging a starting point and ending location, but sites will be finalized soon. All you dedicated carolers are asked to put the date in your calendars. As it approaches, please check the kiosks on Greenview or the website www.gracelandwest.org to learn the specific time and place. If you are willing to donate your home, please call Barbara Sullivan at 327.2940.

GWCA Board Elections

GWCA members will elect three new members to the board 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 board structured?

The board 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 commodity) 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 board members who can help you master the routine.

Who do I contact to express my interest?

You can attend the meeting on December 12th and nominate yourself! You can also contact any current board 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

Welcome to all the new GWCA members who

signed up at GWCA fest:

Beacon Street-Oliver Sanchez
Belle Plaine-Paul Gustafson & Laura Celesia
and Renee Lugo Family

Berteau-Larry & Wendy Brown
Clark Street-Susan Munds Family
Cullom-Tom & Lara Ramsey and the
Heidi Huck Family

Hutchinson-Steve McPhilliamy Family, Jim & Kim McDonell, Thomas Bowtell Family and Kandy & David Houser

Greenview-Desiree Denoyer Family, Joe Cusick Family, John & Anne O'Brien and Tomasina Biegler

Lisa, Sid & Caroline Chapon (Warner) are happy to announce the arrival of their newest family member. **Henry Jacob** was born August 1 weighing in at 6 pounds, 5 ounces and 19 inches.

Neighbor **Howard Horwich** is exhibiting some of his black and white nature and street photographs at Glen's Diner, 1820 West Montrose (closed Mondays). Displayed images are large format 6x7, 4x5 and 2 1/4x2 1/4.

Jake Huzenis of Berteau performed in One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest at the Latin School last month. He portrayed the part of Chief Bromden.

This past winter, **Tom and Lara RAMSEY** moved into 1434 W. Cullom from Chicago's Near North

neighborhood. For Tom, this move four miles north up Clark Street was a return to Graceland West after a 30 year "temporary absence."

Tom was raised at 4310 N. Greenview (now owned by John and Ellyn Bank) where his family resided from 1965 to 1972. Some long-time residents may remember Tom's parents, Mike and Ruth Godwin Ramsey (who had attended both Ravenswood School and Lake View High School) who still reside in Chicago. Some VERY long-time residents of Graceland West may remember Tom's grandparents, Dolores and Melvin Godwin, who had resided at 4334 N. Greeenview (now owned by Donna Forsberg) from 1946 to 1981, a period of some 36 years! In fact, Tom's beloved grandmother, Dolores Weimer Godwin, was born less than one mile away on Larchmont Street just south of Irving Park Road and had done a similar "return to the 'hood" (her "temporary absence": ~1921 to ~1946) move to that which Tom has now done.

Tom remarks that "It used to be known broadly as 'Ravenswood', but our more defined area of Graceland West has never looked and felt better to me, with all of the tasteful renovations and improvements that have been done. Graceland West is an example of a true community within a great city, and I just love being back here!" Tom would love to chat with you (773-2891-5695) or e-mail with you (TRamseyLSE@aol.com).

Tom is absolutely delighted to have returned to the lovely neighborhood what means so much to him and his family history, and he and his wife Lara and are looking forward to meeting all the terrific residents that they haven't already befriended.

Many Thanks to the following GWCA Fest Sponsors

The GWCA fest offered entertainment and fun for all in September. Many thanks are due to Barbara Sullivan for her commitment to this event. She would like to thank all the following supporters. They enable her to realize her visions. The neighborhood thanks you all!

Kelly and Thomas Geary
Michael Earley
Michael and Sharon Jones
Alain and Laura LeCoque
Melissa and James Donath
Victoria MacCarthy
James and Amy Geier
Charles Ginsberg and Hazel Lucchesi-Ginsberg
Lee Francis and Michelle Gittler
Eric and Sharon Langshur

Scott and Kimberly Stiffle Jameson Realty Group, Inc. Lara and Thomas Ramsey The Burke Family Marlene and Jim Granacki

GWCA Fest Silent Auction Report

The GWCA silent auction, which was held during the GWCAfest was a resounding success. Thanks to donations from neighborhood merchants and services and goods from neighbors, GWCA collected over \$2300. A special thanks goes to the GWCA board members for their help in soliciting donations and to Jane Huber, CJ Martello and Sharon Jones for their help on auction day. Ann Maxwell, auction chair.

HALLOWEEN PARTY - Huge Success

The Warner Park and Gardens Halloween party was a huge success with perfect 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 (Kerry Finkel, Sharon Perrine, Mary Beth Flannery, Steve Cook, Julie Gross and Daina Lyons) for their enthusiasm and hard work, and, most importantly, to Warner Park and Gardens and to GWCA for their generous sponsorship.

This will be our last year hosting this event and we would like to especially thank everyone who contributed time and energy to making this such a fun, annual event. Anyone who is interested in taking over the Halloween party should contact us – we're happy to provide support throughout the transition.

Sharon Langshur – 929.0994 Kelley Shields – 244.1590

Lincoln-Belmont Library News

The Friends of the Lincoln Belmont Library held a book sale for 3 days in October and earned about \$1900 to be used for the library.

The Friend's group is also sponsoring a series of weekly foreign films for next year. The first film will be "Wilby Wonderful" from the Toronto International Film Festival. It will be shown at the library at 7pm on Tuesday Jan 10, 2006. It is a bittersweet comedy dealing with 24 hours in the lives of residents of a tiny island who try to maintain business as usual in the face of very unusual business. 99 minutes, English, this film is unrated but not recommended for ages under 17 without parental permission. There will be a series of films shown thru the year at the library and all are free. Library is located at 1659 West Melrose.

Warner Park News

It's that time of the year...as you make your list and check it twice...don't forget to put a little something (\$\$\$) in for Warner Park and Gardens! In case you didn't know, WP&G is a 501c3 organization, and any contribution that you give is fully tax deductible. This year we have had very few families contribute. I know, it's hard to believe but it's true! The park relies only on donations and volunteers. To learn more about the park visit www.gracelandwest.org and click the link for Warner Park. This fall we put in an automatic sprinkler system, so next year our park will be greener than it ever has, but we can't continue to be green without you! So please if you could dig deep (in your pockets of course!) and mail your year end donation to Georgie Yost-1449 W. Berteau. Let's sustain our gem of a park! All 2005 contributors will be highlighted in the next newsletter.

GWCA HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

The GWCA is hosting a food drive to support the Lakeview Pantry. Please help those in need over the Holidays with the gift of food! Neighbors can drop off non-perishable food items at Ann Ann Maxwell's house, 4240 N. Greenvibetween Dec. 5th and Dec. 22nd. The pantry reports these are the most needed food items:

peanut butter jelly juice spam cans of soup cans of stew

cans of tuna

ARE YOU REMODELING?

Lovely apatment available in Graceland West, 1500 sq ft with many amenities; second floor. Clean and available immediately, short or long terms for details call Terry 773.281.2958.

Newsletter Staff

Deirdre Jameson, Editor • Jane Huber, Newsletter Assistant and Board Member • Iris Brenk, Layout. Please send any suggestions, news or corrections to djameson@jameson.com

GWCA Council Members

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Laura LeCoque	348-4187	ecoque@sbcglobal.net	GWCA Fest Auction
Ann Maxwell	528-6677	annie_mg@hotmail.com	Newsletter Delivery
Tim McGonegle	327-2940	tmcgonegle@aol.com	Website/Event
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Bob Flannery	549-7472	flannerybob@yahoo.com	Alderman Liaison
Jane Huber	296-4200	jhuber@stl-inc.com	Newsletter Assistant

GWCA goes High Tech!

www.gracelandwest.org

Have you visited the GWCA website lately? Point your browser to www.gracelandwest.org! All current meeting announcements and newsletters can be found there. We are constantly updating and improving the website. Your suggestions are welcome!

Did you notice a problem in the neighborhood? Go to the GWCA website. You can email the GWCA board from the website and get an answer back in a couple of days.

Do you have trouble receiving the GWCA newsletter? You can receive it electronically now. Just go to the GWCA website www.gracelandwest.org and email the board. Ask to be added to the GWCA email list. You will be able to get your newsletter before the paper copies arrive! Past newsletters are also available on the website. You will also receive the CAPS crime reports so sign up now!



Thank you to Board Members

Bob Flannery, Ann Maxwell and **Jane Huber** complete their terms as GWCA

Board Members this December. They served during a particularly busy time because the issues of landmarking and setbacks arose. Thanks to them for all their efforts. Bob arranged meetings with the alderman. Ann hosted the caroling party in her home, took meeting minutes, coordinated the GWCA auction and continues to coordinate the newsletter distribution. Jane, who actually rents in the neighborhood, toiled as the newsletter assistant, meeting minutes taker and garage sale chairperson. Your efforts and sacrifices are appreciated.

GWCA Board Nominations

Nominations for the GWCA Board will be held at Dec 12th GWCA meeting, The Nomination Committee consists of:

Ann Maxwell 528-6677, Bob Flannery 549-7472 Jane Huber 296-4200.

Please contact one of them if you have interest in running. You must be a member of GWCA to run.

VOLUNTEER TUTORING PROGRAM AT LAKEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Thank you again to all previous Graceland West Lake View High School Volunteer Tutors!! Lakeview is opening the school on Saturday mornings for tutoring except during school holidays beginning Saturday, November 19, 2005.

We need volunteers who can tutor math or science. While volunteers may also be asked to help with other subjects, math and science are the fundamental needs.

As we look at the beginning of our fourth year providing volunteer tutors, we have devised a plan that lets volunteers schedule farther ahead and know when they will be needed. Tutors are needed on Saturday morning from 10:30 am until noon. Volunteers can tell us what Saturdays work for them and will know their schedule in advance. Also, as a volunteer, if your plans change, you can cancel a scheduled date. If you are available to start earlier on Saturday than 10:30 or other hours during the week, please let me know and I will communicate your availability to Lake View.

We have had excellent student success from our previous tutoring efforts. Prior Graceland West volunteers have tutored Constitution, Math (Algebra, Geometry, Calculus and Trigonometry), Remedial Reading, English, French, Spanish and Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics).

Please contact Janice Horwich for details, questions, suggestions or to volunteer for the 2006 school year. Home phone/fax: 773 975-0004 or email: jhorwich@sbcglobal.net

99% Recycling Guaranteed!

GWCA member Ellyn Bank coordinates the recycling effort in the Graceland West Neighborhood. For a small monthly fee, the Resource Center comes and picks up your recyclables (news-

paper, mixed paper, bottles and cans). For more information you can call the resource center directly 773 821-1351 or contact Ellyn at earthmomma2@comcast.net



Get your GWCA dues reminder through Email!

GWCA members can receive their GWCA membership dues invoices via email rather than snail mail now. If you prefer email reminders please alert Kathy Scardina with your request at kathygwca@sbcglobal.net.

Minutes of the Graceland West Community Association General Membership Meeting

A General Membership Meeting took place at Lakeview High School on Tuesday, November 1, 2005 at 7:00 pm. In attendance were the following Board Members: Jim Friestad, Ann Maxwell, Tim McGonegle, Barbara Sullivan, Jane Huber, Bob Flannery, and Carol Blalock. Jim Friestad chaired the meeting.

Approval of the August Membership Meeting minutes, along with approval of the financial report, was made by unanimous decision. Barb Sullivan provided the Financial report from Dawn Ragan. Income for the year to date is \$10,850.55, Expenses for the year to date are \$10,636.29, net income was 214.26. Account balance is 12,254.74. Terry Baublis suggested that we publish the financial report on the GWCA web site and in the newsletter.

Committee Reports:

- 1. Barbara Sullivan reported that GWCA Fest attracted over 600 attendees and made over \$1,000. She thanked all attendees, donators and Ald. Schulter.
- 2. Jane Huber reported that 16 neighbors participated in the GWCA garage sale, and the group was \$31.00 under budget. She is looking for new ideas for next year, along with a volunteer to organize the event.
- 3. The Graceland Cemetery Tour attracted 40 participants this year.

New Business:

- A representative from Forrest Claypool's office, Bob D., announced that Mr. Claypool is running for Cook County Board President, and needs 8,000 signatures in order to be on the ballot. The rep passed a petition sign-up sheet around for signature.
- A "Stop Business" notification was entered at Lakeshore Cleaners, in Rayan Plaza. They have been performing non-zoned cleaning on the premises and a license rescinding hearing will take place Friday, November 18, 2005.
- 3. Joy Schaad let Alderman Schulter know that when the resurfacing occurred a few years ago on Pensacola, crews went on strike and the project was never completed. Joy asked Ald. Schulter to consider finishing the project using the crew that is currently resurfacing Clark Street. The Alderman asked Joy to provide details to him after the GWCA meeting.
- 4. There will be a CAPS meeting on Wednesday, November 02, 2005, for Beat 1923, at Chase Park, 4701 N. Ashland Avenue.
- 5. Debbie Frisch was nominated to join the GWCA Board, Ann Maxwell made the motion, all were in favor. As we are mid-year she will serve a 14-month term. GWCA will have four Board positions open in January, elections will take place at the Dec 12th GWCA meeting.

6. Calendar for 2005 - Next GWCA General membership Meeting is Monday December 12th holiday potluck dinner at LVHS Community Rm, 6:30 PM. There will be a caroling party on Sunday December 18th, from 4-6 PM. Meet at the Bines house on Greenview and travel south to the Sullivan – McGonegle house for an after party. See the Website or newsletter for details.

7. Graceland West Zoning Overlay:

- a. Alderman Eugene Schulter and Zoning Administrator Tom Smith were in attendance, along with Carolyn Nash to explain the Zoning Overlay ordinance for Greenview Avenue.
- b. On Tuesday, November 1, 2005, Ald. Schulter put forth an ordinance before the Chicago City Council, requesting a zoning overlay for three blocks of Greenview Avenue in the Graceland West neighborhood. This ordinance will proceed to committee, and can be amended or withdrawn at that time.
- c. The overlay will override current zoning guidelines. The Department and Construction & Permits (DCAP) will not issue any permits until the hearing is held, date to be determined.
- d. Requirements will vary based on the current setbacks. The purpose of the ordinance is to maintain the current setbacks which are in place.
- e. Greenview Avenue will be addressed first, with side streets to be decided at a later date, though because the setbacks on the side streets are not as "dramatic", the current setbacks might be enforced.
- f. Re: future construction, current building location setbacks are grandfathered in. If your buildings are torn down, when you rebuild, the new setbacks apply. If you suffer a fire etc. and you are just rebuilding the building as it was previously, that is acceptable and the new overlay setbacks do not apply.

Proposed Setbacks - Greenview Avenue Only

- a. From Irving Park Road to Belle Plaine, east side of the street 40' (Irv Pk to Belle Plaine on the west side is the LV school which is exempt).
- b. Belle Plaine to Warner, east side of street 40'
- c. Belle Plaine to Berteau, west side of street 40' (except the Church on the corner which is 25')
- d. Warner to Berteau, east side of street 40'
- e. Berteau to Hutchinson, east side of street 40'
- f. Berteau to where Hutchinson would divide Greenview, west side of street 30'
- g. Hutchinson to Cullom, east side of street 30'
- h. North of Hutchinson on Greenview to Cullom, west side of street 45 '
- i. Cullom to Montrose 20'
- j. The setback is based on property line (generally the inside edge of the sidewalk closest to house) to front façade of house. Enclosed porches or bay windows to

- the ground are considered to be the face of the building. Steps that go to a small landing are not considered the face of the building.
- k. Individual blocks, with consensus, can enforce additional restrictions that are not a part of the proposed overlay.
- I. Back yards use a formula of 30% of the total depth of a lot, with the 30% including a garage. The old code enforced 30' as the back yard requirement.
- m. Ald. Schulter is working on a city wide Task Force to legislate backyard sizes.

Marlene Granicki asked whether GWCA should vote on the proposal as the property owners on Greenview Ave, will be the ones affected. The Alderman and the GWCA Board explained the canvass efforts on Greenview to date and that the affected property owners support for the proposed overlay had already been established. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the neighborhood and have GWCA members vote on the zoning overlay. Joy Schaad made a motion to approve the Neighborhood Overlay plan as noted below:

"The Graceland West Community Association supports the Zoning Overlay plan for our area as presented at the November 1st 2005 general membership meeting with the caveat that if the property owners on any particular block or blocks want to organize together to work towards a more restrictive setback requirement, that is allowed but, if an area wants to reduce the new setback

requirements from those outlined at this meeting, that would require another presentation and vote of the Community Association."

Passed and adopted on November 1, 2005, the motion was unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.

GWCA Treasurer's Report

Graceland West Community Association Income & Expense Statement • January 1 - November 19, 2005

Cash Balance 11/19/05	\$11,918.11
Net Income (Loss)	(\$122.37)
Total Expense	\$10,976.29
Newsletter	1,457.76
GWCA Fest Expense	8,729.98
Garden Walk Expense	588.29
Garage Sale Expenses	116.08
Expense Administrative Expense	84.18
Total Income	\$10,853.92
Other - Garage Sale	85.00
Membership Dues	1,200.00
Interest Income	34.39
GWCA Fest	9,519.53
Contributions Income	15.00
Income	

JOIN TODAY! Graceland West Community Association Membership Form

Date:		<u> </u>	I am interested in volunteering for GWCA in:		
Type of Membership: \$15.00 Family (circle one) \$10.00 Individual \$2.00 Senior Citizen		•	 helping plan and organize events/parties helping build the GWCA website helping write the newsletter 		
Name_			being a block representativehelping 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 publis		
Make checks payable to: GWCA			the names and phones of the members and mail it		
Send or	drop off CHECK	& COMPLETED FORM to:	to members in February each year.		
Kathy S	cardina 4325 N (Freenview 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.

Sign here:		