

Welcome to New Members

Patrick & Nicole Fisher*
Steve & Kristin Baker

New Friend of GRO

Lucinda Dieker*

* Also Corner Garden Contributor

**Special thanks to Westwood Liquors and
Mr Lee for continuous support of GRO!**

ANNUAL POTLUCK COMING UP!

Corner Garden Contributors

Dieter & Diane Schulte
Patrick & Tracy Bolger
Jeremy & Jennifer Cozad
Helene C. Ortega
Mary Conway
Brooke Williams
Bill & Joetta King
Tony & Linda Gagliardi

**January/
February**

2009

Vol. 28

**Nos.
1 & 2**

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

**TUESDAY
MARCH 10
6:30 P.M.
GRO'S
ANNUAL POTLUCK**

**LUTHER MEMORIAL
CHURCH
WILSON & CAMPBELL**

*More details in the
March newsletter*

COME ON OUT!

Just because there's no January GRO meeting, don't think the Greater Rockwell Organization is hibernating! We've been doing more than just lounging around Beans & Bagels philosophizing and complaining about the snow, the cold and shoveling.

The CUB (Citizen's Utility Board) presentation at our September meeting was just the beginning in our plan to bring in guest lecturers to inform and entertain our membership. At our March meeting (03/03/09) Mary Carol of the Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will be speaking about water purity, sewage treatment, flood control, and a plethora of other hydro-topics.

In April, Dick Bjorklund, past president of the Lakeview Historical Society, will give a talk about the history of the Ravenswood/Lakeview area and the history of our neighborhood in particular (The Ragged Stranger Murders for starters!) Dick is a knowledgeable and gregarious presenter, and history buffs like me are really looking forward to this one.

We're also working on hosting a representative from the Better Government Association for a meeting in the not-too-distant future.

So don't be left out in the cold. There's plenty to do as a member of GRO no matter what the season. I encourage you to join us for these informative evenings whether you're a member of long standing or someone who's joining us for the first time. We welcome your input and ideas.

Tom Kosinski

Appreciative Inquiry – Growing GRO Membership

Following the December GRO meeting, former GRO President Les Kniskern led an Appreciative Inquiry culminating in the question: “What suggestions do you have about how we can reach out and involve new members?”

Participants began by expressing their visions of hope, and contemplating what they especially value about the Greater Rockwell Community. Responses included seeing “accountability and togetherness,” the area has a “safe and natural fit,” and a lot of comments revolved around there being a real sense of belonging to this neighborhood, “knowing people and being friends with neighbors.” And, of course, this response: “This neighborhood is the BEST neighborhood in the world.”

Our members commented on the great GRO events, yard sales, garden walks, the block party, pot luck dinners, clean and green events, getting news through the newsletter, and having a POSITIVE effect on the community. Suggestions were made about how to reach out and involve new members — we hope you will take part in this process. Invite a friend or neighbor to a meeting, join us for the pot luck, and get involved.

At the end of the evening participants also made a “Growing GRO Promise” — to bring a new face to the February GRO meeting. Remember your promise; we look forward to seeing you at GRO!

Les Kniskern

<p>GROnews is published by the Greater Rockwell Organization (GRO), a community group dedicated to making our neighborhood a safe and pleasant place in which to live. Tenants, homeowners, landlords, and business owners are welcome to join us in improving our community.</p>	<p>GRO Board/Committee Chairs Membership: Patti Huetteman (506-0795); Newsletter: Sara Spitz (275-7786); Public Safety: Maria Bappert (728-8127); Special Events/Fundraising: Desiree Kettler (368-6263) and Jacquie Krupka (251-9885); Beautification: Bea Tersch (561-0794) (clean up and graffiti); Mary Conway (907-8502) (corner gardens); Urban Development: Abbey Botkin (989-6816) Tom Gunderson, Budget: Ron Graziano (509-9679)</p>	<p>Newsletter staff Editor: Sara Spitz Proofreader: Contributor: Jenny Mohler Distributors: Allie Botkin, Michael Buckwalter, Ottilia Burany, Verla Corkill, Joyce Dall, Mark Dawson, the Donnelly boys, Holly Gerberding, Patti Huetteman, Martin Perdoux, Karen Peterson, Nina Sandlin, Jill Schiltz, Eric Sinclair, Carol Vitale, and Marianne Werner</p>
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		<p>www.greaterrockwell.org</p>

Join the Peasantry!

This year Peasants' Plot in Manteno, Illinois, is offering a choice of two ways to participate in the program that began last year.

You can purchase a CSA share for \$275, which will give you fresh organic veggies every week. The produce can be picked up the Lincoln Square Farmers Market every Tuesday from June through October; 20 weeks. The amount is a bit less than a 1/2 bushel (average-sized grocery bag).

You can also join the worker share program. In exchange for 50 hours of labor (40 hours on the farm, 10 at the market) spread over 6 months from May through October. Workers receive a "ration" of the crop for pickup at the Lincoln Square Market. This option is for those who don't mind getting their hands dirty and want to learn more about organic growing. The ration is usually a choice of four types of vegetables bunched for market.

For an application and more information, visit www.peasantsplot.com

Thanks to all who supported Peasants' Plot at the market this last year. We enjoyed getting to know our customers and look forward already to seeing you again in June or sooner.

COMING UP . . .

For the kids . . .

Tot Storytime at Little Green Baby

Join your neighborhood friends for storytime at Little Green Baby -- a new day has been added! Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:00 a.m.

4654 N. Rockwell, 773.505.2066. www.littlegreenbabychicago.com

KinderFasching

Saturday, February 7 at 12:30 pm

In the Historic Marunde Ballroom 5th floor

DANKHAUS; 4740 N. Western

Children's Mardi Gras

Children's games, music by Paloma, Amazonian dancers

Great way to brighten up a chilly Chicago Saturday!

Fresh krapfen (donuts) available

Dress up! Special visit from the Prinz und Prinzessen! Kids free! Adults \$4

Kids Yoga at Bloom

Wednesday, February 18 from 4:30 - 5:30pm

Discover new ways to stretch, breathe, relax and have fun! Movement, stories, games, laughter and silence help kids create a deeper understanding of their environment and themselves. Learn traditional yoga poses such as lion, tree and warrior to develop strength, flexibility, coordination and balance. Kids 4 - 10, pre-registration required.

4663 N. Rockwell, 773-463-9642. www.bloomyogastudio.com/reg.html

For the Adults. . .

Jazz on the Terrace

DANKHAUS; 4740 N. Western

Friday, February 6. Doors open at 8:30 p.m., music starts at 9:00 p.m.

2009 season opens with Carl Leukaufe and the Tony Morrison Trio. Leukaufe has been bebopping on the vibraphone for over 4 decades. Come see the magic happening with the Tony Morrison Trio. NO COVER

SPECIAL THANKS TO
MELANIE PARENTI,
PROOFREADER EXTRAORDINAIRE, WHO HAS SERVED US WELL FOR A LONG TIME. SHE HAS MOVED AWAY FROM THE GRO AREA AND WILL BE MISSED.

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GROnews is delivered free within the GRO service area, and is available to residents of neighboring communities at the Rockwell El stop as well as several business locations.

Ad space is \$25 for a business-card size; other ad sizes available as space permits.

Camera-ready copy should be sent as jpg, tif, pdf, or doc file to newsletter@greaterrockwell.org

Copy must be received by the 10th of the month to appear in the next following newsletter. For more information, contact newsletter@greaterrockwell.org

February Calendar

- 2 Monday, 7:00 p.m. Horner Park Advisory Council, Horner Park Fieldhouse, Montrose & California
- 3 **Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. GRO Monthly Meeting. Luther Memorial Church, Campbell & Wilson**
- 10 Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Gross Park Advisory Council. Gross Park Fieldhouse, Lawrence & Washtenaw
- 14 Saturday. Valentine's Day
- 16 Monday, 7:30 p.m. Manor Garden Club. Luther Memorial Church, Campbell & Wilson
- 16 Monday. Presidents' Day
- 21 Saturday, noon to 3:00 p.m. Cat Adoption at Ruff Haus Pets, 4652 North Rockwell

Spring is on the way!

Memberships run from October 1 through September 30

New member ____ Renewal ____

GRO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Address _____

Home Tel. _____ Work Tel. _____ E-mail _____ Occupation _____

Categories (circle one): Individual \$20 Family \$30 Senior (65+) \$10 Senior Family \$15 Sustaining \$50
Business \$20 Friends of GRO \$20 (living outside GRO service area)

I'm adding \$5 \$____ for the Corner Gardens

I would like to see GRO address the following issues:

I would like to participate in the following committees (please circle):

Fundraising/Special Events Member Services/Welcome Newsletter Public Safety

Streetscape/Beautification Streetscape/Greening Urban Development

Make your check payable to GRO and bring it to a meeting, drop it off at Ruff Haus Pets, 4652 N. Rockwell (just north of the el tracks), or mail it to GRO Membership. P.O. Box 25561, Chicago IL 60625-0561