

## Welcome to New Members

Jeremy Wilson  
Colleen Kane

## Welcome to New Business Member

Pro-Active Holistic Care

## THANKS TO CORNER GARDEN CONTRIBUTOR

Pro-Active Holistic Care

Special Thanks to Mr. Lee and  
Westwood Liquors at Western & East-  
wood for continuous and generous  
support of GRO

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## BIKE THEFT PREVENTION

Although bike thefts are a problem year-round, warmer weather brings increased bike thefts. At the Beat 1911 CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) Meeting on May 19, the Police Officers encouraged bike registration, and offered guidelines:

Thieves are less likely to steal a bike that they know is registered with the police. Simply register your bicycle at [ChicagoPolice.org](http://ChicagoPolice.org) and bring proof of registration to the 19th District Community Policing Office at 850 W. Addison Street, and receive a security decal to affix to your bike. If the decal is peeled, "void" appears and the stolen bicycle can be traced back and returned to the rightful owner.

For more information contact the 19th District Community Policing Office at 312-744-0064 or [CAPS-019district@chicagopolice.org](mailto:CAPS-019district@chicagopolice.org).

Maria Bappert

## Annual GRO Yard and Garage Sales Coming Up June 13 & 14!

It's spring, time to clean out those basements and garages, and trade your trash for someone else's. Contact Secretary Bea Tersch by e-mail: [secretary@greaterrockwell.org](mailto:secretary@greaterrockwell.org) or call her at 773-561-0794 by June 7 to add your name to the permit and add your location to the map.

We are offering a few new wrinkles this year: There will be no participation fee for paid-up GRO members. That's right, gratis - no fee for members! Additionally there will be an after-sale "social hour" at the Red Lion Pub starting at 5:00 p.m on Saturday after the sale. GRO will be hosting a free buffet to those who hosted a garage or yard sale.

Even if you didn't host a sale, you can still join the camaraderie. The cost for non-participants is \$5.00 to cover the cost of the munchies. Susan's delicious Pulled Pork Sliders and her equally scrumptious Macaroni & Cheese will be featured. This ought to be fun!!!

Remember the deadline – June 7 - to sign up for GRO's Annual Yard and Garage Sales!

## Corner Garden Corner

*"I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden." – Ruth Stout*

Prune \ˈprʊn\

1. noun: a plum dried or capable of drying without fermentation
2. verb: to cut off some of the branches of (a tree or bush) so that it will grow better or look better

One of the most important jobs in the spring is pruning. Many gardeners are reluctant to prune because they aren't sure how to prune or they are afraid of injuring their plants. Plants are usually very forgiving and will usually recover from incorrect pruning (this may take a few years, but they usually recover).

Pruning plants corrects potential problems, keeps plants healthy and strong, encourages more blossoms, and makes plants more beautiful. Pruning helps you keep your plants growing the way they should (or at least the way you think they should grow).

If the plant has a problem, prune it now, whenever now is. Although preventative pruning and major pruning should be done early in the spring, while the plant is dormant, minor pruning, shaping, and trimming can be done all summer. Don't prune plants heavily in the fall, when plants are getting ready for winter. Wait until the plants actually go dormant before pruning them.

Pruning during winter dormancy helps to produce a burst of new growth in the spring. Prune fruit trees just before they start to grow in the spring. Prune summer flowering trees and shrubs (such as rose of sharon, butterfly bush, and hydrangeas) any time before they start growing in the spring.

Prune spring flowering trees and shrubs (such as lilac, forsythia, wisteria) after they finish blooming. Some trees (including maple and birch) and some flowering trees will bleed if you prune them in the spring. This is usually not harmful, but it may invite insect or disease problems. Prune trees that bleed either in the late-fall or during the winter.

*(continued on p.4)*

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.

### Officers

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Tom Kosinski  
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773-463-7608  
Shonagh Merits  
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Bea Tersch  
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773-561-0794  
Lucinda Dieker  
Treasurer@GreaterRockwell.org  
312-804-4042

### GRO Board/Committee Chairs

Membership: Patti Huetteman (506-0795); Newsletter: Sara Spitz (275-7786); Public Safety: Maria Bappert (728-8127); Beautification: Bea Tersch (561-0794) (clean up and graffiti); Shonagh Merits (corner gardens) (312-208-3130) Urban Development: Abbey Botkin (989-6861) Special Events: open

### Newsletter drop points

Beans & Bagels, Rockwell & Leland  
Carol's Hair Care, 2556 W. Lawrence  
Brown Line Station at Rockwell

Address correspondence to:  
newsletter@greaterrockwell.org or  
GROnews, P.O. Box 25561  
Chicago IL 60625-0561

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www.greaterrockwell.org

## Ten Reasons to Join and Support GRO

You may or may not be aware of the role of the Greater Rockwell Organization. Besides sponsoring the fun stuff - the annual summer block part, the winter potluck, the annual yard and Garage sales, and various social events, as well maintaining the corner gardens, here are some reasons that joining and supporting GRO will keep the neighborhood lively and beautiful:

1. The clean up and beautification of the neighborhood. Neighborhood volunteers, coordinated by GRO, are responsible for our beautiful corner gardens. Our members have been picking up trash and removing graffiti for more than 30 years. We also commissioned and funded the “Our Kind of Town” mural on the north wall of Beans & Bagels.
2. Support to independent local businesses. GRO worked with the CTA and the Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce to minimize the impact to local business during the Brown Line expansion project. We practice and encourage the patronage of local businesses and provide reviews in the newsletter.
3. Neighborhood communications and forum. Through the newsletter, the GRO website, email blasts and monthly meetings we keep you informed of community news. Whether it is a new business, a request from the alderman’s office or something going on in the city that impacts us, these tools not only provide a way for us to be informed but also give us a voice.
4. Local schools. GRO has long worked with Waters School and supports the efforts of the Waters Today organization of parents. GRO has organized a book drive and underwritten the cost of the carpeting for the library.
5. Awareness of and connections to other local organizations. GRO provides connections for our members to many local organizations and a forum for the organizations to meet, inform and work with our members. Examples of organizations that have presented to our membership include Active Transportation Alliance, Ravenswood –Lake View Historical Association, Luther Memorial, Heartland Alliance and Beyond Today.
6. Local parks and greenspace. GRO works with Friends of the Park, Welles Park, Horner Park Advisory Council, Jacob Play Lot, Gross Park, Ravenswood Manor Garden Club, Openlands and Friends of the River to protect and improve our local green spaces.
7. Neighborhood social events/coordinating the annual neighborhood Yard & Garage sales. Annual social events include the summer “more than a block” party and the Pot Luck held in late winter. Both are family-friendly events that provide camaraderie and lots of food. The annual GRO Yard & Garage Sales is an event not to be missed, whether you’re a shopper or a seller. GRO provides permits, maps and advertising to draw a crowd.
8. A voice in local development. GRO was instrumental in down zoning the neighborhood, which has allowed the neighborhood to maintain its character. GRO is also consulted when neighbors request variances to zoning and when businesses need our support.
9. Community safety. Members attend police events such as the Beat 1911 CAPS meetings and report back to the membership. GRO also emails community alerts when there are local issues.
10. Keeping up on issues that can affect property/property values. GRO has stood up for 7% cap on property taxes, and hosted speakers to educate residents about property tax issues, and has also raised awareness about issues such as green living, TIFS and eminent domain.

It’s Your Community!! Get Involved!

(Pruning - continued from p.2)

Pruning in the summer helps to slow down or 'dwarf' a plant. You can control the suckers and branches you don't want to grow, without stimulating new branches to take their place. You can also reduce the number of leaves on the plant, which will also help slow down the plant's growth.

Fall pruning helps to prevent damage from heavy snowfalls, as well as helping to eliminate unwanted insect and disease problems. Major fall pruning, however, should be kept to a minimum so as not to stimulate any new growth late in the year that could be prone to winter injury.

Always make clean cuts. Don't leave stubs or strings. Cut on a 45 degree angle. Cuts made too steep are weak. Cuts too flat do not allow water to drain away and may cause unwanted insect or disease problems.

*Shonaugh Merits*

## June Calendar

- 1 Monday, 7:00 p.m. Horner Park Advisory Council Horner Park Fieldhouse, Montrose & California
- 2 **Tuesday. 7:30 p.m. GRO Monthly Meeting.** Luther Memorial Church, Campbell & Wilson
- 7 Deadline to register for Yard and Garage Sales
- 13/14 Saturday & Sunday GRO Yard and Garage Sales: All over the neighborhood
- 16 Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Beat 1911 Meeting, Kindred Hospital, Montrose & Rockwell
- 17 Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Gross Park Advisory Council, Gross Park Fieldhouse, Lawrence & Washtenaw
- 21 Fathers Day

**Thursday Night Framers Market and Concerts begin June 4**

## July Calendar

- 4 Saturday. Independence Day
- 6 Monday, 7:00 p.m. Horner Park Advisory Council Horner Park Fieldhouse, Montrose & California
- 7 **Tuesday. 7:30 p.m. GRO Monthly Meeting.** Luther Memorial Church, Campbell & Wilson
- 15 Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Gross Park Advisory Council, Gross Park Fieldhouse, Lawrence & Washtenaw
- 21 Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Beat 1911 Meeting, Kindred Hospital, Montrose & Rockwell

**July 17 -19  
Common Pantry Food Drive**

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 or \$\_\_\_\_\_ 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**