

**Thanks to Corner Garden
Contributors**

Jan Woelffer
Carole Harmel
Beans & Bagels

**Welcome to New Business
Members**

Monti's
Jack & Ginger's Dogcare
Pro-Holistic Institute

**Special Thanks to Mr. Lee and
Westwood Liquors for continuous and
generous support of GRO**

Welcome to New Member

Meryl Williams

**NOVEMBER
2012**

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THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

I imagine every time a GRO president hands over the imaginary gavel to a new president, they think to themselves "how could any two years be so full?" and as I look back on the last two years - those of my own tenure - it is true that a lot has happened for GRO and our neighborhood, and the GRO membership and community have a lot to be proud of.

During the last two years our ward got a new alderman in Ameya Pawar, who quickly began trying to improve community involvement with his Ward Council and related committees. GRO has provided representation to these discussions on a periodic basis and represented issues as appropriate to him and his staff.

The GRO neighborhood has continued to come together in many ways over the last two years. There are, of course, the monthly GRO meetings, where we've met and discussed ideas, heard some great speakers, and caught up on the recent doings in our part of the city. We've also had some great events - the yard sales each spring, the pot lucks, and the block parties that form an integral part of the summer for many of us. But we've also pulled together on various causes - GRO worked with the Friends of Jacob Park and several other organizations to try and reclaim the CTA property adjoining that small park, gaining the ear of our present Alderman as well as Alderman O'Connor. And working with the Ravenswood Gardens Homeowners Association we've held four successful food drives to help those with a bit less than ourselves.

A key achievement in the past two years was GRO's development of a process by which grants from the GRO Betterment Fund could be evaluated and disbursed. Our first of these, to Neighborhood Nutrition Centers, was made this summer, aiding that organization in its mission to bring healthy food to those needing it, and helping those who wish to grow food to learn more about the process.

The months and years to come will surely carry the fruits of these activities and many more. GRO is going to have a bit of a split presence as we divide between wards 40 and 47 along Leland Avenue which will necessitate a bit more aldermanic coordination - but gives us the opportunity to share our goals with more

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voices as well. We'll continue to get together, to learn and have fun with one another, while seeking to improve our neighborhood along the way. I know Patti Huetteman, our incoming president, and her board, will have many new ideas and new opportunities to share.

I hope you will continue to take part - if you haven't been to a meeting in a while, do come on a first Tuesday. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please do. And keep following GRO on Facebook, Twitter, and our greaterrockwell.org website.

It's been an honor to have been President of GRO these past two years. It's greater to be a resident of our neighborhood along the way.

Eric Sinclair

November Calendar

- 4 Sunday. Daylight Saving Time ends. Turn the clock back, get an extra hour of sleep
- 5 Monday, 7:00 p.m. Horner Park Advisory Council. Horner Park Fieldhouse, Montrose & California
- 6 **Tuesday ELECTION DAY! Get out and vote!**
- 6 **Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. GRO Meeting. Luther Memorial Church, Campbell & Wilson**
- 12 Monday. Veterans Day observed
- 13 Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. Gross Park Advisory Council. Gardening Workshop. Alderman's office 4243 Lincon Avenue
- 22 Thursday, ALL DAY. THANKSGIVING

Don't miss Waters School's 4th Annual Artisan Fair!

Saturday December 1
10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.
Waters Elementary School
Campbell & Wilson

BUY LOCAL! This event is an ideal way to find one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted gifts for the holiday season; the range and quality of work that will be on sale promises to be amazing. Wreaths and local food will also be available.

Come support our neighborhood school and its students, and gather with neighbors, families and friends in the true spirit of the season for a fun-filled day.

www.watertoday.org

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.

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