

Corner Garden Contributors  
Laurie Neu & Garry Wright  
Bob Nedved & Linda Jerger

## NO GRO MEETING IN JANUARY!

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE  
FEBRUARY 3, 2009

New Business Member  
Sweet Maintenance, Inc.

Thanks to Mr. Lee & Westwood  
Liquors for continuous support

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**December**

**Vol. 27**

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### HELPING HANDS CAMPAIGN!

*Help those less fortunate by donating to Representative John Fritchey's Helping Hands campaign.*

*Bring NEW scarves, mittens, gloves, hats and other clothing, as well as toiletries, to the December GRO meeting, or drop off donations at Rep. Fritchey's office at 2539 North Southport (773- 871-4000).*

*After the December meeting, you can drop them off at 4725 N. Rockwell until December 31.*

*Charitable donations are down generally, so your support is very important!*

### Coming Up at the December GRO Meeting

Let's Get A Conversation Going!

After our regular business at Tuesday's meeting we will be holding a group brainstorming session. To put it simply, we feel proud of our neighborhood and proud of the GRO organization. Let's see if we can't parlay 30 years of community experience into some new ways of looking at our organization, and create initiatives to:

- Increase neighborhood participation
- Envision goals for the coming year
- Engage new GRO membership

Join us following the December 2 GRO meeting, and draw upon new ideas...

## Waters School's 3rd Annual Crate & Barrel Event

Over 230 parents, friends and neighborhood school supporters attended Waters School's Crate & Barrel Event November 13, almost double the attendance of the previous year. Attendees enjoyed fancy hors d'oeuvres, mini martinis, and other libations as they shopped and chatted for about three hours, and all agreed that it was a very fun night.

This fundraiser was earmarked for a full time Music Program, and brought in \$13,038 of the \$40,000 goal. Tickets were \$100 per person, with \$50 of that going directly to Waters School, the other \$50 going back to the buyer in the form of a Crate & Barrel Gift Card.

Governor Blagojevich, who had been personally invited, took the opportunity to stop by and announce to Principal Kipp that he would pledge between \$5,000 and the amount this event raised for the program. Waters School is surely looking forward to that!

*Terri Tatting Versace*

## MISSING

**From home on Artesian. Large gray cat with tabby markings. Male, neutered, answers to "Finn."**

**Reward. 773-989-6861**



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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### GRO Board/Committee Chairs

Membership: Patti Huetteman (506-0795); Newsletter: Sara Spitz (275-7786); Public Safety: Maria Bappert (728-8127); Special Events/Fundraising: Desi 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 (989-6861) Tom Gunderson (539-1665), Brad Schenkel (271-9070); Budget: Ron Graziano (509-9679)

### Newsletter drop points

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# Coming Up

## **Holiday Toy Drive and Santa Visits**

Through December 7th, Little Green Baby at Rockwell Crossing will be collecting toys as part of a holiday Toy Drive for the Lydia Home ([www.lydiahome.org](http://www.lydiahome.org)), which is a Chicago-area organization that fosters children, provides support to young moms, and more. On December 5th, Little Green Baby will be hosting an evening of cocktails to celebrate the good work that Lydia Home provides, including a raffle to help raise money for the Lydia Home. In addition to the Toy Drive, Little Green Baby will have Santa visiting the store on December 13th and 20th, both Saturdays, from 11 to 2. This is a great chance for kids and families to visit Santa and make sure he knows what is on their Little Green Baby wish list!

## **Seeds of Change Marketplace**

December 6, 10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Barry United Metho dist hosts their semi-annual fair trade market. Mark your calendar now to support the fair price on gifts and goods to artists and merchants.

4754 N. Leavitt Street

<http://www.berryumc.org/todo.php>

## **StollenFest**

Saturday, December 6

Visit Cafe Selmarie that day for a StollenFest just as tasty and a whole lot closer to home. Plenty of delicious stollen samples will be available as well as stollen trivia. Plus, you can enter to win the title of Honorary Selmarie Stollen Ambassador! A position not to be taken lightly, the Selmarie Stollen Ambassador will be supplied with Selmarie merchandise and plenty of stollen to share with co-workers, classmates and friends during the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Kids Eat Free Sundays

One free children's menu item per each dinner main course purchased. Dinner begins at 3:30 every Sunday for kids 12 and under.

<http://www.cafeselmarie.com/events.php>

## **Christkindl Market**

Friday, December 5 – Sunday, December 7

Enjoy traditional German food, German beer and glogg, and entertainment under the Big Tent. Kids Tent with crafts and fun at Giddings Plaza. Proceeds benefit the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce and St. Matthias Transfiguration School. Event times: Friday 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.,

## Corner Garden Update

The gardening season has drawn to a close, and everyone in our neighborhood once again enjoyed the lovely corner gardens that we have in the GRO area. Thanks to all of the volunteer corner gardeners who put a lot of time and physical energy into the gardens, which are community property under the care and protection of the corner gardeners and also the neighborhood.

We always appreciate people pulling weeds or picking up trash from the gardens, and want to remind everyone that the corner gardeners will tend to the plants on each corner, to ensure that everyone in the neighborhood continues to enjoy them for seasons to come.

If you're inclined to do more than pick up trash or pull weeds, we have a spot for you next spring – watch the newsletter for information!

Mary Conway

## December Calendar

- 1 Monday, 7:00 p.m. Horner Park (and Jacob) Advisory Council, Horner Park Fieldhouse, Montrose & California
- 2 **Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. GRO Monthly Meeting. Luther Memorial Church, Campbell & Wilson**
- 9 Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Gross Park Advisory Council. Gross Park Fieldhouse, Lawrence & Washtenaw
- 20 Saturday, noon to 3:00 p.m. Cat Adoption at Ruff Haus Pets, 4652 North Rockwell
- 21 Winter Solstice. The first day of winter. Really.
- 25 Christmas
- 31 New Year's Eve

## January Calendar

NO GRO MEETING IN JANUARY!

- 1 New Year's Day
- 17 Saturday, noon to 3:00 p.m. Cat Adoption at Ruff Haus Pets, 4652 North Rockwell
- 19 Monday. Martin Luther King,s birthday observed
- 20 Tuesday. Inauguration Day

For rent: garage space for car. 4700 block between Campbell and Maplewood. \$100 per month. 773-506-0795

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**