

**LAKE VIEW CITIZENS' COUNCIL  
2005-2006 NEIGHBORHOOD  
AND  
COMMITTEE REPORTS**



867 W. Buckingham Place  
Chicago, IL 60657  
773-880-LVCC (5822)  
[www.lakeviewcitizens.org](http://www.lakeviewcitizens.org)



**54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday May 23, 2006**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**Pops for Champagne**  
**2934 N. Sheffield Av.**  
**Chicago, IL 60657**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
  2. State of Lake View Remarks by David Winner-President LVCC
  3. Guest Speakers- Two Successful Lake View Businesses!
    - Beth Murphy of Murphy's Bleachers and Mrs. Murphy and Sons
    - Dan Smith and Steve McDonagh of the Hearty Boys
  4. LVCC Citizen of the Year Award to Bonnie Leracz
  5. LVCC Civic Award to Pastor George Rice
  6. Announcement of 23<sup>rd</sup> Police District Window Lock Program
  7. Announcement of Election Results for Board of Directors and President of LVCC
  8. Other Business
  9. Adjournment
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## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

May, 2006

Dear Friends and Supporters:

Lake View Citizens' Council (LVCC) has been working to protect and enhance the quality of life for Lake View residents and businesses for the past 54 years. Lake View is a vibrant community – 100,000 people strong – that boasts high social and economic diversity paired with small town neighborhood charm. Comprised of residents and businesses, LVCC and its twelve affiliated branches are grass roots organizations working with the community, local officials and government agencies to make our streets safer, cleaner and in better repair; to enhance our lakefront and other green spaces; and lastly, to protect our community from irresponsible development. This ongoing work is accomplished through the valiant efforts of volunteers who keep the community informed through public forums, news media, our website, community rallies, neighborhood meetings and many other assorted lines of communication. We are all working to make Lake View a better place to live, work and play.

LVCC and its branches continues to play a key role in supporting property tax reforms, developing the Jarvis Bird Sanctuary, helping in the creation of the Neighborhood Protection Plan, coordinating the Thanksgiving food drive to assist the Lake View Food Pantry, spearheading “Operation Mitten” to provide winter outerwear for need children and sponsoring social events which showcase our businesses and provide fun for the neighborhood.

Our various neighborhood associations continue critically important work with their respective aldermen on zoning and traffic issues, with their schools to ensure that funding continues for extracurricular programming, with their police for public safety programs and with their chambers of commerce on important issues and programs designed to encourage the people of Lake View to shop here and support our economic base.

As you read through this year's Annual Report, you can be proud of the undertaking that this organization and its twelve affiliates and committees have accomplished this past year.

We wish to thank all of our donors and sponsor for their continued support this past year and in particular Pops for Champagne and St. Joseph's Hospital for hosting this year's Annual Meeting.

David Winner  
President

## **MAKING LAKE VIEW A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, & PLAY FOR 54 YEARS**

Founded in 1952, The Lake View Citizens' Council (LVCC) has provided continual service to the community. The LVCC's Board of Directors and its 12 affiliated neighborhood branch organizations work constantly to improve the Lake View Community. The LVCC was established to gather information on community issues, inform residents of these issues and provide a public forum for the discussion of community concerns. That mission continues to this day, as the LVCC works to improve the physical and social environment of Lake View for the good of all Lake View citizens.

### **LAKE VIEW CITIZENS' COUNCIL PRESIDENTS 1952-2006**

1952-1955 Mrs. Martin Gordon  
1955-1957 Rev. William Roberts  
1957-1960 Mr. Edward Saltiel  
1960-1961 Msgr. Vincent Moran  
1961-1962 Mr. Herbert Lustig  
1962-1964 Mr. Harold Wade  
1964-1968 Mr. David O. Taylor  
1968-1971 Mr. Carl Wirtz  
1971-1972 Dr. Lawrence Hirsch  
1972-1974 Mr. John X. Healy  
1974-1975 Ms. Patricia Timm  
1975-1976 Ms. Lorraine Hoffmann  
1976-1978 Mr. Bruce P. Young  
1978-1980 Ms. Charlotte Newfield  
1980-1981 Mr. Ben Schenker  
1981-1983 Mr. Richard Anderson  
1983-1985 Mr. Daniel T. Gillespie  
1985-1986 Mr. Paul J. Kendall  
1986-1988 Mr. Wayne A. Krauss  
1988-1990 Mr. Herbert G. Lowinger  
1990-1992 Mr. Michael O'Connor  
1992-1994 Ms. Lorraine Hoffman  
1994-1996 Mr. Gary Gray  
1996-1998 Mr. Peter J. Donoghue  
1998-2000 Ms. Diann Marsalek  
2000-2002 Mr. Gregg Kiriazes  
2002-2005 Mr. James Ludwig  
2005-2006 Mr. David Winner

### **LVCC WOULD LIKE TO THANK**

The five aldermen who within LVCC's boundaries who represent us in City Hall

Ald. Tom Tunney  
Ald. Gene Schulter

Ald. Ted Matlak  
Ald. Helen Schiller

Ald. Manny Flores

# Lake View Citizens' Council Officers and Committee Chairs 2005-2006

## OFFICERS

President

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

David Winner

Chad Monteith

Barbara Head

Bonnie Leracz

Mark Knight

Executive Committee Officers

Tim Synder

Maureen Martino

Jim Ludwig (ex-officio)

Ann McCabe

Committees

By Laws

Finance and Fundraising

Nominating

Personnel

Chair

Open

Heather Way

Arnold Davis

Maureen Martino

Issue Committees

Communications/Marketing

Anti-Crime Public Safety

Neighborhood Protections

Liquor Licensing

Transportation/Parking

Chicago Park District Liaison

Green Space Development

TRAC

Events

LOOK UP

Chair

John Becvar

Diann Marselak

Jim Ludwig

Beth Murphy

Chester Kropidlowski

Charlotte Newfeld

Marie Poppy

Barb Head

Hank Zemola

Kathleen Moritz

**President**      David Winner

**Board Members**

Arnold Davis	BHN
Sean Smith	BHN
Jim Morrin	CLVN
Keith Esses	CLVN
Bonnie Leracz	ELVN
Susan Hagan	ELVN
Mike Lavelle	ELVN alt
Charlie Schmidt	HN
Kevin McIntyre	HN
Tim Snyder	HPN
Bob Clarke	SELVN
Gary Gray	SELVN
Bill Haderlein	SLN
Ernie Toth	SLN
Lisa Iverson	SNA
Graham Warning	SNA
Chad Monteith	SPN
John Becvar	TN
Jim Ludwig	TN
Barb Head	WDNA
Ann Mc Cabe	WLN
Jani Lesko	WLN
Ronald Baker	At Large
Chester Kropidowski	At Large
Tom LaPorte	At Large
Patricia Craig	At Large
Marie Poppy	At Large
Diann K. Marsalek	At Large
Aimee Pine	At Large
Eric Bjorkman	At Large
Richard Streetman	At Large
Tom Klarquist	At Large
Jennifer Dedes	Institutional-Chicago Cubs
Maureen Martino	Institutional-Lake View East Chamber
Heather Way	Institutional-Lake View Chamber
Gehrig Peterson	Institutional-Chicago Special Events
Jeffrey Hurder	Institutional-Standard Banks
Larissa Tyler	Institutional-Central Lake View Merchants
Hank Zemola	Institutional-Chicago Special Events
Beth Murphy	Institutional-Murphy's Bleachers
Noreen Vaid	Institutional-Illinois Masonic
Mark Knight	Institutional-State Bank of Countryside

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS OF APR 30 2006

## ASSETS

## Current Assets

Petty Cash	100.00
Checking - Countryside NEW	80,750.60
Savings - Central Federal	10,236.70
Savings - LaSalle Bank	1,122.51
Standard Bank CD	10,212.32
Accounts Receivable	1,846.16
Other Current Assets	298.24

**Total Assets**

104,566.53

## LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

## Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	2,508.20
Branch Liability: BHN	11.00
Branch Liability: CLVN	106.00
Branch Liability: ELVN	527.41
Branch Liability: HN	130.00
Branch Liability: HPN	4.00
Branch Liability: SELVN	1,004.57
Branch Liability: SLN	3.00
Branch Liability: TN	25,989.34
Branch Liability: WLN	(3.00)
Branch Liability: TRAC	3,181.41
Committee Funds: GLBT	100.00
Funded Project: Food Drive	65.00
Funded Project: Op. Mitten	821.00
Funded Project: P. Bike Fund	72.00
Funded Project: Bird San 02/03	8.16
Funded Projects: Jarvis Bird	1,792.80
Funded Project: Lake View Saga	1,650.00

## Total Liabilities

37,970.89

## Capital

Retained Earnings	65,757.84
Net Income	837.80

## Total Capital

66,595.64

**Total Liabilities & Capital**

104,566.53



	April 2006	Year to Date		April 2006	Year to Date
<b>Revenues</b>			<b>Expenses</b>		
Grants	0.00	5.00	Bad Debt Expense	30.00	1,013.00
Membership Dues - Individual	100.00	416.00	Bank Charges	28.62	485.56
Membership Dues - Institution	50.00	180.00	Contributions	1,200.00	3,700.00
Contributions	0.00	21.00	Filing fees	0.00	15.00
Contributions - Institutional	1,120.00	2,520.00	Fundraising Expenses	0.00	858.95
Auction Fundraiser	3,135.00	3,135.00	Spring Auction Expenses	0.00	120.00
Century Club - Donations	75.00	7,244.00	Food & Beverages	0.00	1,025.69
Clark St Fair Income	0.00	25,733.65	Supplies Expense	182.96	517.51
Event Door Fees	0.00	805.00	Telephone Expense	104.00	1,099.33
Event Sponsorships	0.00	250.00	Internet Connectivity	29.99	293.94
Lakeview 55k Walk	1,298.00	1,298.00	Web Hosting / Email Postage and Shipping Expense	23.85	321.55
Office Rent/Utilites Income	0.00	7,418.70	Office Rent	0.00	990.84
Other Income	896.08	3,526.11	Utilities	1,200.00	9,000.00
Interest Income	0.00	212.32	Maintenance Expense	84.98	2,663.33
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>6,674.08</b>	<b>52,764.78</b>	Printing Expense	0.00	217.00
Cost of Sales			Publications	1,636.00	2,494.36
Cost of Sales-Salaries and Wages	816.77	11,993.24	Marketing	0.00	10.00
Payroll Tax Expense	2,427.56	6,503.48	Meetings Expense	0.00	3,251.93
Employee Benefits	750.00	750.00	Insurance	0.00	882.00
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>3,994.33</b>	<b>19,246.72</b>	Other Expense	0.00	3,554.00
Gross Profit	2,679.75	33,518.06	Suspense	0.00	89.24
			<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,520.40</b>	<b>32,680.26</b>
			<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(1,840.65)</b>	<b>837.80</b>



**LAKE VIEW CITIZENS' AWARD  
BONNIE LERACZ**

Bonnie Leracz moved to Lake View in 1990. Owing to the splendid example of her neighbors, Christa and Hans Boden and Jean and Bill O'Neill, she became active in East Lake View Neighbors (ELVN) and was elected Treasurer in the late 90's. Appointed Chair by the Board in 2003, Bonnie began representing ELVN on the LVCC Board and was appointed Secretary. In those community service roles, Bonnie worked to strengthen communication between the various interests operating within Lake View to bring community resources to the membership, to donate to local charities, to support the efforts of city services and the police, and to be always mindful of improving the quality of life in Lake View for its residents and business community.

Bonnie has been a volunteer Minister of Care St. Joseph Hospital; lector and Eucharistic minister in her parish St. Mary of the Lake; representative on the Greeley School Local School Council; leader catechist in SPRED, a program to offer small faith communities to people with mental retardation, and trustee of the University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL.

Bonnie enjoys travel, cooking, baking, and walking (three pairs of Nikes so far this year!). She has been married for 35 years to Ed, a Chicago Police Detective. Lake View Citizens' Council is proud to present Bonnie Leracz the Lake View Citizens' Award.

**LAKE VIEW CIVIC AWARD  
PASTOR GEORGE RICE**

In November 2003, Pastor George Rice celebrated 50 years in ministry—10 years as youth pastor at the Addison Street Baptist Church and 40 years as pastor of the Addison Street Community Church. Not only has Pastor Rice been involved in these two churches, but also in the community: Chicago Public Schools, Park District, Boy Scouts, Lake View Kiwanis Club, Chicago Police Department, Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers, local politics (both sides of the aisle), North Park University, you name it—he's participated! In fact, in recognition of his service, the city has even renamed Addison Street at Hamilton Avenue "Honorary Rev. George Rice Way."

Rev. Rice has also served as the Vice-Chairman of the Beat Rep program, which was the forerunner to the CAPS program. He is a member of the Chaplains' Unit of CPD, having been appointed in 1980. He has served as Chaplain to the Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers. Rev. Rice also has served as a member of the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission during the Governor Ogilvie administration, both on the advisory board and the regular board. Pastor Rice served as the LVCC chairperson of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District Steering Committee.

In Scouting activities, Rev. Rice was the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award in 1960. He has been a loyal supporter of Boy Scout activities in the Chicago Area Council. While serving as a youth pastor, he was responsible for two Explorer posts, a Boy Scout troop and a Cub pack. One of the achievements of his Scouting career is that 25 of his Scouts received the God and Country Award.

Rev. Rice is happily married to his wife Marilyn and has two daughters, Barbara and Annie, and one son, Rev. Gary Schroeder, eight grandchildren and one great grandchild. Lake View Citizens' Council is proud to present Pastor George Rice our 2006 Civic Award.



## **BELMONT HARBOR NEIGHBORS**

Belmont Harbor Neighbors has had a very successful 2005 – 2006 year. After much study, we voted to back a new zoning map developed by Alderman Tunney for the areas between Belmont, Roscoe, Broadway and Halsted. We actively backed the re-construction of the children's play lot at Roscoe and Lake Shore Drive. In November we held our annual food drive for the Lake View Pantry at Treasure Island. We have increased our e-mail mailing list to over 200 people and have a new web site: [www.belmontharborneighbors.com](http://www.belmontharborneighbors.com). Our representatives to the 44<sup>th</sup> ward CDDC, Ronald Baker and Diane Kuta, have been very active in looking at the future of development in the 44<sup>th</sup> Ward.

## **CENTRAL LAKE VIEW NEIGHBORS**

Central Lake View Neighbors is bounded by Diversey to Belmont and Racine to Halsted. The branch meets the second Thursday of each month at Advocate Illinois Masonic Hospital. CLVN is in the process of starting a new website.

CLVN has elected new officers and has been active in the community. Area directors were elected and will act as ambassadors for their areas, working to recruit new members. An outreach was done to over 100 businesses to encourage them to join.

CLVN formed a planning and zoning committee which addresses all zoning variances and zoning requests. CLVN hopes to have a fundraiser with Agassiz School by selling flowers and plants this spring. CLVN hopes to work on issues including beautification and green space. A membership committee was formed to encourage residents to join the organization.

## **EAST LAKE VIEW NEIGHBORS**

East Lake View Neighbors (ELVN) dealt with issues regarding development, North Sheridan, the Hotel Chateau, expansion at Wrigley Field, increased height for the rooftop businesses, a street fair on Sheffield, the Buffett concert at Wrigley, planning, and regulation of informal businesses. Through information sharing at General Meetings, members were able to trade views with local officials and developers. Members were also offered opportunities to volunteer to serve local outreach groups such as the National Runaway Switchboard and C.A.U.S.E.S. A local source of pride is the restored Lake View Presbyterian Church. Pastor Joy Douglas Strome presented plans for the now-completed restoration along with a history of the church's presence in East Lake View.

Fundraising included a successful Oktoberfest and collecting food and monetary donations at Thanksgiving time for the Lake View Pantry. Besides the Pantry, Greeley School, the House of the Good Shepherd, Lake View Presbyterian Church, and Gill Park benefited from the proceeds of Oktoberfest.

## **HAMLIN PARK NEIGHBORS**

All meetings for Hamlin Park Neighbors are held at the Hamlin Park Field House and begin at 7:30 PM. General Meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month and are open to the public. Board meetings are open to all members though dates may change. To be notified Board meetings dates/times by email, please contact [hp@lakeviewcitizens.org](mailto:hp@lakeviewcitizens.org). Hamlin Park neighbors is the community voice for citizens who live between Belmont, Ravenswood, Diversey, and the Chicago River. The Hamlin Park neighborhood is divided between the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward and 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward as follows: North of Wellington Avenue- 1<sup>st</sup> Ward includes any addresses either west of Clybourn or west of

Oakley, 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward includes those to the east of both Clybourn AND Oakley. South of Wellington Avenue-1<sup>st</sup> Ward includes addresses west of Damen, 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward included those east of Damen.

## **HAWTHORNE NEIGHBORS**

Hawthorne Neighbors General Meeting took place on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 at Resurrection Education Building (1050 W School Street). Membership runs from November 1st to October 31st of each year and covers residents and businesses between Belmont to Addison and Clark to Racine. Individual memberships in Hawthorne Neighbors are \$5/year.

Major issues in 2005-2006 centered on quality of life issues. Some of these issues focused around events such as the annual Garden Walk, the LVCC Street Fair and the CLMA Street Fair. The street fairs have presented some negative issues that are being dealt with. We also discuss the development of the neighborhood and of the businesses on Clark Street. The new Zoning Ordinances have developers looking for variances and we monitor "Incidental liquor license applications" and sidewalk cafes.

Many of our concerns coincide with other branches' concerns: housing diversity and density, developers' proposals for town-homes and three flats, trash/noise/public drinking along our business strips, liquor license and beer garden requests, poor mail delivery and parking. We will continue to meet the challenges to improve our living environment both individually and with the other branches of LVCC.

## **SHEIL PARK NEIGHBORS**

For the second half of 2005 and the first half of 2006, SPN has continued to work with residents and Southport business owners to maintain a harmony for everyone. Several variance requests were referred to SPN by the Alderman's office. Each was asked to attend meetings and present a case for the variance and was then voted on by the neighbors. Sidewalk cafe size and placement were an open issue last year and continue to present challenges for 2006. As well, speed bumps on School Street were discussed at several meetings, but in the end the neighbors did not favor installation if them. The approved option was to install "speed limit" and "slow" signs along with trimming of the trees along the street. Lastly, SPN is also engaged with the developers to reach a compromise for development of the property at Ashland and Belmont. While this is not within the boundaries of Sheil Park, the neighbors are concerned with the traffic and congestion that will accompany any development at that intersection.

## **SOUTH EAST LAKE VIEW NEIGHBORS**

In the past year, South East Lake View Neighbors (SELVN) has continued working on several multi-year ongoing issues. SELVN worked extensively with the alderman's office to achieve rezoning of residential areas between Broadway and Halsted. Areas east of Broadway are planned for zoning re-evaluation in the future. Representatives from SELVN have been active in the discussions of the planned development of Resurrection St. Joseph's hospital and in the 44<sup>th</sup> ward master plan preparation initiated by the alderman's Community Directed Development Council. Efforts to landmark several blocks within SELVN are also actively being pursued.

Last December, after serving successfully for six years as president, Robert Clarke transitioned to the Office of Vice President, exchanging positions with York Chan. The organization also welcomed several new board members. A major goal this year is to work more with other neighborhood groups, the chamber of commerce, and local schools. Several community-wide forums are being

planned by SELVN for this year, addressing CTA Brown Line reconstruction and redevelopment of the Dominick's property.

## **SOUTH LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS**

- 1) Continued zoning review requests. It appears that every real estate purchase is followed by an up-zoning request from the new owner. We have resisted any up-zoning changes on "knock-down" property issues.
- 2) We are consulting with WLN on the St. Luke's Senior Center and the Centrum LaSalle Bank Development. Even though, not within our boundaries, we have dealt with the Renaissance Group on the Senior building on Belmont and the LaSalle Bank issue will affect all in the neighborhood.
- 3) Once again, we sponsored a talk by Alderman Matlak at our November membership meeting.
- 4) We are getting information out on the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance before the city Council. We intend to have a presentation and vote at the May membership meeting.

## **SOUTHPORT NEIGHBORS**

We have a new president: Jill Peters. We have formed a retail committee for Southport. It is headed by 3 board members: Maria Betti, Kelly Lawrence and Lisa Santos. Also in monthly attendance are Alderman Tunney, Heather Way and Chris Irwin (a real estate broker). They are modeling this Committee after the very successful Retail 47 group in Alderman Schulner's ward. Some of the goals are to be proactive in finding complementary businesses for our street and to work with Jewel/Osco on their plans for the future and creating a harmonious relationship with our businesses on Southport.

We also have been working on our strengthening our relationship with the Clark Street businesses. And trying to work with these businesses to find a balance between their business needs and the needs of our residents.

We continue to attend the CDDC meetings monthly. Our delegates are Jill Peters, Peter Uliasz and Sally McPherrin. We have finally completed a master plan for our ward. We sponsored the "Greystone Initiative" with Alderman Tunney, which is a campaign to bring awareness to developers and the public of the importance of these historic buildings. We just saw in the news that a more formal initiative is being made official later this year. Our efforts in bringing this to the forefront are being rewarded!

We are in the process of working on "Summer on Southport," our summer children's festival. We are working with a committee that consists of board members and businesses to make sure this festival is successful for our organization as well as our Southport businesses. Proceeds go to our organization to plan for next year's events, and to benefit Blaine School.

## **TRIANGLE NEIGHBORS**

The residents and businesses in Triangle Neighbors rallied around the efforts to build a community park to make 2005-2006 a huge neighborhood success. First, this past June 2005, NeighborSpace closed on the first half of community garden at 815 W Roscoe. This urban Eden will become a sanctuary in a community represented by so many brand new four-story condominiums. Throughout the year, TN held a series of fundraising events including:

- A Lemonade Stand and Cubs Rooftop Ticket Give-away (in conjunction with the Lake View Garden Walk)

- A Halloween Parade – definitely *the* major event Halloween night in Chicago
- Our first ever Charity Bachelor Auction (for him and for her) raising \$10,000 in one night.
- Weekly fundraising meetings with potential contributors to our park acquisition efforts.

TN has focused on communicating better with its members. There is now a regular eNewsletter (Triangle Tales). Triangle events are regularly covered by local news programs and have articles in the Tribune, Sun Times, and neighborhood and gay press.

Alderman Tunney rewarded our diligent efforts to make our streets safer and cleaner. We held community forums on graffiti and community safety. The new curbs and sewer drainage correction project for Roscoe Street is nearing completion and the two speed humps (just past the alley and at the 900 block) should go in the Spring 2006. Several other streets in Triangle were also re-paved.

## **WEST LAKE VIEW NEIGHBORS**

In the last year, West Lakeview Neighbors (WLVN) discussed a number of development issues, reviewed sidewalk café licenses and street fairs such as Rock around the Block and had security updates from the 19<sup>th</sup> Police District and Attorney General's Office. The Schoolyard Tavern's expansion was a big issue last two years. The current focus is on the proposed 108-unit senior assisted living facility by Renaissance and St. Luke's at 1501 W. Melrose and the proposed Centrum development on the LaSalle Bank property at Ashland and Belmont, which includes a 7-story condo and commercial building, an office building and condos on Melrose.

WLVN regularly meets with Aldermen Tom Tunney (44<sup>th</sup> Ward) and Ted Matlak (32<sup>nd</sup> Ward). Once a year, State Rep. John Fritchey and Cook County Commissioner Mike Quigley give us legislative and county updates. In March 2006, we elected a new board. WLVN meets the third Wednesday of every other month at the Lincoln Belmont Library (1659 W. Melrose). For more information, please see our website, [www.wlvn.org](http://www.wlvn.org).

## **ANTI-CRIME COMMITTEE**

This year was a busy year for the Anti-Crime Committee. Three forums were sponsored in the area. A forum was held informing the public of the laws regarding "Sex Offenders." A second forum was sponsored by LVCC on "Identity Theft." A third forum was held which addressed "Graffiti." Each of the forums had presenters and provided informative material to those in attendance. Additionally, LVCC donated funds to purchase two bicycles for the police to use in the 23<sup>rd</sup> District. Police are able to use the bicycles as part of their neighborhood patrol. The police on bicycles provide a good presence for the neighborhood.

## **BILL JARVIS BIRD SANCTUARY**

The Bill Jarvis Migratory Bird Sanctuary has survived the worst drought in a decade thanks to the efforts of our volunteers. During the long hot summer, watering crews saved vulnerable newly planted shrubs and trees. Native plants and grasses showed their evolutionary adaptation to the Midwest "climate from Hell" by booming and providing seed for the fall migration. We continued to battle the aggressive invasive species that crowd out the food producing species the birds so desperately need.

In November 2005 Jarvis received \$2,600 celebrating the birthday of your project chair.

These funds are supporting the volunteer component and providing seed plants and tools. The Chicago Park District has finally contracted help for the Nature sites and we expect to make even more progress toward our goal of a sustainable ecosystem.

Thanks to State Representative Sara Feigenholtz Jarvis received a grant of \$20,000 to winterize our storage shed. A new year round bathroom, windows, etc. will provide a much more pleasant work environment for all. Please join us on May 27, June 10, July 8 and August 12 for details call 773 327 5053.

## **OPERATION MITTEN**

Each year, LVCC solicits donations from residents and the business community. Last year, we raised \$1,000. The money was used to purchase hats and mittens for underprivileged children in the neighborhood. The items were donated to Holiday Parties at the 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Districts of the Chicago Police Department. Additionally, items were provided to the officers in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> District to distribute to children on their beat who were in need of a hat, glove, or mittens. This program was started by LVCC many years ago to foster a relationship between the police and children in their districts.

## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Communications Committee continued the work started in 2004-05 to put in place the building blocks to communicate more effectively and more frequently with residents and businesses in Lake View.

First, we upgraded the LVCC web site ([www.lakeviewcitizens.org](http://www.lakeviewcitizens.org)) and created an interactive home page that allows site visitors to more easily see which neighborhood group they belong to. Site visitors can literally drill down on a map to learn the name of their neighborhood organization, its meeting day and time, and how to contact them. We created for each of our 12 branches an email account ([branchname@lakeviewcitizens.org](mailto:branchname@lakeviewcitizens.org)) that could be forwarded automatically to up to two different email contacts within each branch. We continued the practice of posting branch newsletters and announcements to the extent they were forwarded to us, and the website "Important Announcements" page was updated a minimum of twice a month every month.

Second, we developed several new marketing collateral pieces to help improve community awareness of LVCC and acquire members on behalf of the branches. The first piece (the postcard) can be mass-produced for distribution in street fairs and at other community events. People who respond to the postcard are added to the LVCC email list (as well as their respective branch communication list). The second piece (the brochure) articulates the mission of LVCC, some of our accomplishments, and contains an up-to-date map of all the branches. We designed the brochure with space for each branch to customize it with their name, regularly scheduled meeting day/time/place as well as how to contact them. The third piece was a poster that again contained a map of the LVCC branches with the message to "Get Involved". We also produced a giant banner (that was hung on Broadway for the entire month of February 2006). All the pieces have the same "look and feel" to develop a consistent set of images across all the communication channels.

Finally, we formalized our monthly LVCC e-newsletter, the e-Citizen. We now directly distribute this to hundreds of residents and businesses on a monthly basis and highlight both community-wide and local events and encourage each of the branches to forward it to their respective lists. If you are interested in joining our mailing list, send an email to [info@lakeviewcitizens.org](mailto:info@lakeviewcitizens.org).



## TAX REFORM ACTION COALITION

TRAC and the 30 community groups from across the city that make up the coalition worked hard to get the 7% solution renewed. TRAC launched a successful campaign in January that involved sending thousands of postcards to Springfield called the "Blizzard Campaign." Leaders from these community groups picked up postcards and got to meet their counterparts at a "social" where they were encouraged to keep going by Assessor Houlihan, Sen. Cullerton, Rep. Fritchey and Ald. Matlak. It worked because the Senate passed the 7% solution with a majority vote!

It was a much different story when the bill got to the House. The bill did not have the support of Speaker Mike Madigan and 12 Chicago Democratic Representatives. They sided with the Big Business groups that lined up against the tax relief for homeowners. Jerry Roper, President of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, has described this bill as an attempt to keep taxes low for **"a select subset of affluent homeowners."** The Metropolitan Planning Council (A+ Illinois) stated in it's February legislative agenda that they did not want the 7% renewed because they wanted to ease the property tax burden on commercial and industrial owners.

TRAC and its coalition have started the **"Rolling Revolt of 06"**...as the reassessment notices roll out across the city TRAC is asking everyone to send their notices to TRAC. The media and elected city and state officials will be reminded weekly of the enormous impact that these assessments are having on the *"people"* in our communities because TRAC will be sending out these notices throughout the spring, summer and fall. We will renew the fight to get the 7% passed in the Veto session this fall. Stayed tuned and join the **"Rolling Revolt of 06!"**

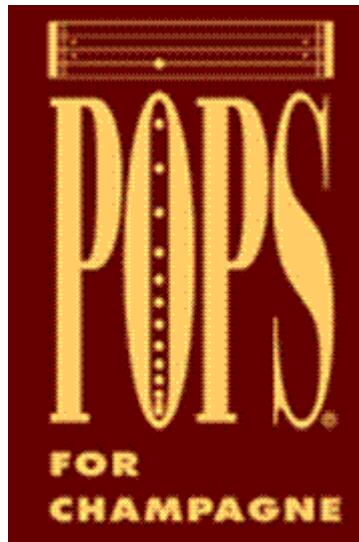
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