



Times

CALENDAR



All events are held at the Old Town Triangle Center unless otherwise designated. Meetings are open to all members.

TRIANGLE EVENTS

- October 13, 7:00 p.m.**
OTTA Board Meeting
- October 19, 7:00 p.m.**
Neighborhood Improvements Meeting
- October 20, 7:00 p.m.**
HD/PZ Meeting
- October 22, 7:00 p.m.**
CAPS Meeting



OPENINGS

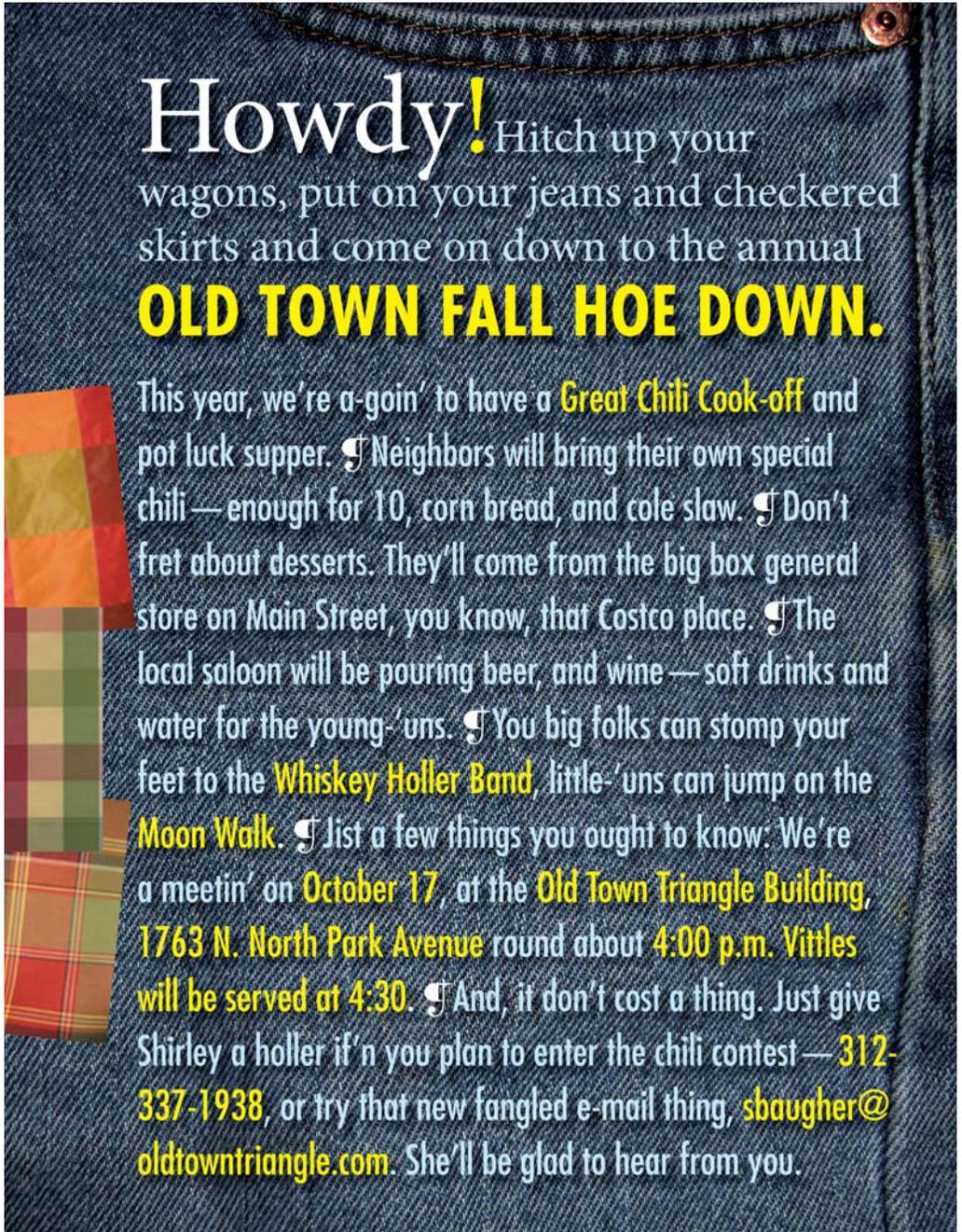
- October 11, 2:00-5:00 p.m.**
Image, Imagination, Imagery
The paintings of Norman Baugher
- November 8, 2:00-5:00 p.m.**
Land and Sea
Exhibition of watercolors and pastels by
Maureen Carr, Reven Fellars, Cindy
Johnson, Geri Kaye, and Nancy Pinzke
- December 6, 2:00-5:00 p.m.**
Glass-Up Against the Wall
Fused glass artwork by Michelle Rial

SPECIAL EVENTS

- October 17, 4:00-7:00 p.m.**
The Great Old Town Hoe Down and Chili
Cook-off
- December 5, 4:00-6:30 p.m.**
Old Town Holiday Party and Cookie
Exchange 



FERN BOMCHILL DAVIS



Howdy!

Hitch up your wagons, put on your jeans and checkered skirts and come on down to the annual **OLD TOWN FALL HOE DOWN.**

This year, we're a-goin' to have a **Great Chili Cook-off** and pot luck supper. 🍴 Neighbors will bring their own special chili—enough for 10, corn bread, and cole slaw. 🍴 Don't fret about desserts. They'll come from the big box general store on Main Street, you know, that Costco place. 🍴 The local saloon will be pouring beer, and wine—soft drinks and water for the young-'uns. 🍴 You big folks can stomp your feet to the **Whiskey Holler Band**, little-'uns can jump on the **Moon Walk.** 🍴 List a few things you ought to know: We're a meetin' on **October 17**, at the **Old Town Triangle Building, 1763 N. North Park Avenue** round about **4:00 p.m.** **Vittles will be served at 4:30.** 🍴 And, it don't cost a thing. Just give Shirley a holler if'n you plan to enter the chili contest—**312-337-1938**, or try that new fangled e-mail thing, **sbaugher@oldtowntriangle.com**. She'll be glad to hear from you.

ENTER THE GREAT OLD TOWN TRIANGLE CHILI CONTEST

Details on page 5

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

MARTHA CONNOLLY, TREASURER

A successful Art Fair generates net income for the Old Town Triangle Association and provides for the maintenance and beautification of our neighborhood, as well as the many contributions the Association makes to community groups each year. As these two reports illustrate, 2008 was another financially successful year for the Old Town Art Fair. As a result, the Old Town Triangle Association generated over \$93,900.00 in net income. From this income, contributions of over \$90,000.00 were made. Additionally, because of the financial success of the Fair, the Association was once again able to avoid dipping into its Rainy Day Fund, which is maintained in the event of an Art Fair rain-out.

Funds raised were used, in part, to support neighborhood improvement programs and projects, which included the Old Town Triangle Parkways Tree Program, General Park Maintenance and Trash Can Programs, the repair and replacement of metal park fencing, park benches and trash cans, grass re-seeding and plantings in our parks, and partial financial support of neighbor initiated and funded improvements. The continued existence of the OTTA office and event space is due in large part to the successful fundraising activities year over year. This space supports a venue for neighborhood meetings and gatherings, art and yoga classes, and special activities.

Several organizations who requested support from the Old Town Triangle Association, and were the recipients of cash donations include: Boy Scouts Troop 79, Deborah's Place, Lincoln Park Village, Franklin Fine Arts Center, 43rd Ward Senior Bingo Project, LPCA (Lakefront Sculpture Project), Friends of Lincoln (Abraham Lincoln Elementary School), Friends of LaSalle (LaSalle Language Academy - Elementary School), and Lincoln Park High School. Many additional organizations received support via donations of Old Town Books and Art Classes for their organization's fundraising efforts, as well as OTTA art school and association ad placement.



NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

Neighborhood Improvements' Chair Dirk Vos reminds us all to be watchful for the emerald ash borer. This pest, which attacks ash trees and eventually kills them, has continued its

movement across the Mid Atlantic and Midwest. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) threatens 7.5 billion trees throughout the United States. It has already killed at least 50 million trees to date.

The average length for an adult emerald ash borer is 7.5 to 13.5 mm long and 4 mm wide. The larvae are approximately 1mm in diameter and 26 to 32 mm long. They are a creamy white color. The eggs turn yellow-brown in color prior to hatching. Adults lay eggs in crevasses in the bark. The larvae burrow into the bark after hatching eating away at a critical layer of the tree's tissue and causing death within two years. Females lay eggs from early May to mid-July. The borer's life cycle is estimated to one year, but may be up to two years.

The USDA used to attempt eradication of the insect, but its distribution is far too broad at this time, and funds are lacking. Quarantine zones are still set up from which unprocessed raw hardwood materials cannot be removed. The infected states, including Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, and Maryland have prohibited the movement of firewood from one state to another, trying to eliminate the spread of the disease. By June 2008, emerald ash borers were discovered in Chicago and in the far southwest corner of Naperville.

Evidence of the EAB sometimes takes up to a year to recognize. Some signs that a tree has been infested are d-shaped holes in the bark of the trunk or branches and shoots growing from the base of the tree.

The insect is unusually difficult to kill. A pilot study is being undertaken in Michigan to determine if three different parasitic wasps can deter the EAB. These tiny stingless wasps can sense beetles underneath the bark and then lay their eggs in the larvae, thus killing them. As yet, it is not proven this biological control program will work in the United States. It is also not known if the release of these wasps will have any unintended ecological impacts.

Here are a few things you can do to help reduce infestations and impact:

- Purchase firewood at or near the campsite
- Do not bring firewood back after a camping trip
- Inspect firewood. Make sure it has no signs of infestation and that all bark is removed.
- Treat already infest trees (consult your local tree specialists on how to do this) to prevent further infestation
- Know the signs and symptoms of the borer. The quicker it is detected, the better the chance of eradication

→p4

Financial Summary

Old Town Triangle Association (includes Art Fair results)			Old Town Art Fair		
(000's)	2008	2009	(000's)	2008	2009
Income	524.5	470.8		408.1	369.7
Expense	360.4	368.8		246.2	230.06
Net Income Before Contributions	164.1	93.9	Net Income	161.91	139.64
Contributions Net After	102.5	90.9			
Contributions	61.6	3.0			

The Old Town Triangle Association Times is published ten times a year by Old Town Triangle Association Bounded by Clark Street, North Avenue, and the ghost of Ogden Avenue

SHIRLEY BAUGHER, Editor
email: sbaugher@oldtowntriangle.com

OLD TOWN TRIANGLE CENTER
1763 N. North Park Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60614

Tel: 312.337.1938 Fax: 312 337 4015
www.oldtowntriangle.com
email: sbaugher@oldtowntriangle.com
or: lwolfe@oldtowntriangle.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday-10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday-10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please feel free to contact Administrators Shirley Baugher or Leslie Wolfe at the office during those hours.

OFFICERS

FERN BOMCHILL DAVIS, *President*
PHILIP GRAFF, *First Vice-President*
CHRISTINA BEER, *Second Vice-President*
MICHAEL WARNICK, *Secretary*
MARTHA CONNOLLY, *Treasurer*

DIRECTORS

MATT BEER
DEBBIE DAY
ALICE HUFF
JEFF PINES
EMILY ROSE
DIRK VOS

ONCE AGAIN, the Old Town Art Gallery proudly presents the works of one of Old Town's most talented artists: Norman Baugher. He brings his inimitable style and dramatic sense of color to the Gallery in October with a collection of new paintings which he calls *Image, Imagination, and Imagery*. In describing his show, Norman likens his creativity to that of a composer. ¶ *A composer's music is not merely*

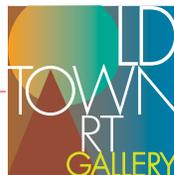


ly a staff full of notes—the notes are just code. The notes decoded and interpreted by the performer are music. The objects in the composition of my works are like notes. A table is not a table when it is an object in a painting. The painted table is its own thing—a product of image plus imagination rendered in brilliant colors and placed in a defined space. How the table (a note of a composition) is performed on canvas—how it is stroked, how it is fitted into its unique two-dimensional environment, how it advances the artist's feeling, vision, or concept—is how art is made from objects. Perspective may be ignored or pushed to extremes, color may be intensified, shadows become active elements, and the spaces among objects take on a particular value. The table is made to reach out and become more than a passive object. ¶ Paint is made from finely ground earth materials marinated in a binding solution until it becomes a fine color-

ful mud. In a sense, then, painting is like playing in mud and bathing in a rainbow at the same time. Of course, it is much more. It is a tactile experience that summons past memories and experiences and gives pleasure from close observation of an object that goes beyond seeing. ¶ Painting is also an exercise of imagination that encourages lateral thinking and toys with images that arise while giving hue, value, and saturation to surface

*areas. The potential is for this play, this celebration, this expression of learning and experience to be contagious, and to arouse the emotions of an observer; just as watching a child at play brings joy at a distance. ¶ Baugher's exhibit showcases the best of his imagery and imagination—from his daring new oils: an *Annunciation* painted in muted blue and gold tones, a billiard table alive with a still life arrangement of fruits and vegetables in electric colors waiting to be played, and brilliantly conceived landscape and floral compositions; to whimsical gouaches displaying his unerring color sense: an array of eggs in *Neverland*, and *A Man and His Iguana*. ¶ *Image, Imagination, and Imagery* will be exhibited throughout the month of October. The formal opening will take place at the Triangle, 1763 N. North Park Avenue, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 11. You won't want to miss this outstanding show. ¶*

OCTOBER
**image
 imaginaiton
 imagery**
 Norman
 Baugher



NOVEMBER
land and sea
 Maureen Carr,
 Reven Fellers,
 Cynthia
 Johnson,
 Gerri Kaye and
 Nancy Penzke

AN EXHIBITION OF WATERCOLORS & PASTELS This exciting show from students in the Old Town Art School will grace the walls of the Triangle Gallery in November. All of the painters have national reputations and have had their works widely displayed. ¶ **Maureen Carr** is a Chicago native who has been painting watercolors for more than 15 years. Her subjects include both landscapes and urban cityscapes. She concentrates on subjects that may seem ordinary on first examination—but look closer and you will discover something much more complex. She explores the role that light plays in art and she uses light to bring life to an otherwise commonplace scene. Maureen has a fulltime career in the healthcare field. She has studied painting under different instructors at the Old Town Triangle Association and has placed her art in both private

and corporate collections. ¶ **Cynthia Johnson** has been studying watercolor and pastel for the past 12 years at the Art Institute of Chicago, Palette and Chisel, and the Old Town Triangle Art School. She has also participated in workshops at the International School of Painting, Drawing, and Sculpture in Italy. Her creativity and her emotions come through in her beautifully executed pastels and watercolors. ¶ **Gerri Kaye** is a native of Chicago and has been intrigued by color since she picked up her first crayon. She specializes in painting landscapes and nature scenes in both watercolor and pastel. ¶ **Reven Fellers** is a longtime Old Town resident and Art School student. Her breath-taking pastels have gained her recognition, and her shows are eagerly anticipated by her many fans. Reven is perhaps best known for her collaboration with best friend, the late

- If you have ash trees on your property, consult a certified horticulturist e.g., The Care of Trees) for treatment options. Direct injections to the cambial layer (soft inner bark) have proven effective

BRICK REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, AND BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

In the spirit of contributing to and maintaining the beauty and charm of Old Town, the OTTA is pleased to announce the Brick Repair, Replacement, and Beautification Program. This program benefits the neighborhood in a number of ways:

- Matching the color and texture of new bricks to historic brick pavers throughout the area is aesthetically pleasing and preserves the historic integrity of the community.
- Repairing jagged edges, large openings, and uneven surfaces that present a safety hazard to pedestrians and bicycle riders.
- Maintaining our real estate values in this uncertain economy. Keeping the brick walkways and parkways in good repair impacts the value of our property in a direct and positive way.

In cooperation with the Illinois Brick Association, the Membership Committee of the OTTA conducted a national search, and they have identified a specific brick that closely matches the color, shape, and texture of our historic bricks, which are no longer manufactured. The recommended brick is the Heartland Flashed ST Edge PVR2-1/4 STD. A sample of this brick can be seen on the parkway on the north side of Eugenie between Sedgwick and Hudson.

The OTTA will provide a 20 percent cash back incentive to Triangle neighbors who wish to replace and/or repair the parkway or brick walkway by their homes. There are four conditions that must be met in order to qualify for this cash back program:

1. The project must be pre-approved by the OTTA.
2. Bricks used must be the above-mentioned Heartland Flashed ST Edge PVR 2-1/4 STD.
3. Bricks must be purchase from the OTTA's preferred vendor, the Illinois Brick Company.
4. Installation must be done by the OTTA preferred contractor.

The cost of the bricks is sixty-four cents each, or approximately \$2.89 per square foot. The bricks are sold in 12' by 12' sections (66 bricks per section or per cube (330 bricks). Labor cost options include: (1) installation of new brick only, (2) removal, reconfiguration, and reuse of old brick, and (3) removal and disposal of old brick and installation of new brick. Additional discounts may be available if bricks are purchased in bulk by several neighbors.

The process for participation in the brick program is simple:

- Measure the area you wish to repair/replace to determine the square footage.
- Request and fill out an approval form from the office.

- Schedule installation through one of our OTTA volunteers—Shannon or Robin Cecola (312-475-3152). They will help you order bricks, obtain City permits, and coordinate installation dates.
- Arrange for payments directly with the supplier (Illinois Brick Company) and the preferred contractor.
- Submit a copy of the paid invoice to OTTA or email to brickprogram@oldtowntriangle.com.
- Your refund check of twenty percent of the total bill will be mailed to you.

MEMBERSHIP

MICHAEL WARNICK, CHAIRMAN

Just a reminder to all to put **Saturday, October 17, 4:00-7:00 p.m. on your calendars**. That's the date for our third annual **Old Town Hoe-Down**. This year we are having a great **Chili Cook-off** and invite neighbors to participate, both as contestants and consumers. All entrants in the contest will receive a gift packet of spices; the grand prize winner will receive a little basket of spices—all from the Spice House on Wells Street. We need neighbors who don't enter the chili contest to volunteer to bring cole slaw or corn bread—our accompaniments of choice. The Triangle will supply all of the "fixings" to top the chili: salsa, grated cheese, and sour cream. We'll have beer, soft drinks, and water on hand, and dessert straight from Costco: giant cupcakes. Oh yes, there will be sloppy Joes for the kids who are not into chili.

There will be entertainment for all—other than the great chili cook-off, of course. The Whiskey Holler Band is bringing its twangy, bluesy sound. Let the World Know will set up the Moon Walk. And a balloon artist from Balloon Expressions in Frankfurt will be twisting and creating all sorts of magical shapes guaranteed to elicit "oohs and aahs" from all you kids. So bring your dancing feet, your party spirit, and your appetites and come on down.

CAPS

SHIRLEY BAUGHER, NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON

Officer Chris Schenk chaired the CAPS meeting on September 24, 2009. The main topic of concern was the issue of squatters who had taken over the building at 1739 N. North Park. Repeated attempts to have the current owner, U.S. Bank National Association, evict the interlopers have proved futile. While only one or two occupants were in the deserted building as of last January when the last legal tenant was evicted, there are now several families living there and numbers of children being dropped off daily. Apparently the utilities are still on (there are lights showing from all windows), and the squatters are parking their cars on the street.

Several neighbors attended the meeting and complained of noise emanating from the building late into the night. Others spoke of suspected drug activity. All maintained that the presence of the intruders has made them feel unsafe.

Officer Schenk says that the matter is now in the hands of the City's Law Department, and that the bank has finally started the eviction process. An initial court date is set for October 22 at 9:30 a.m. He cautioned, however, that the eviction process is a slow one, and that squatters are considered dwellers. As such, they have rights. Only the sheriff can evict them, and he can only do so after a judicial eviction order has been issued. The Alderman's office will contact the Law Department for an update on the proceedings; and the 18th District will contact the Triangle office about where the hearing will take place.

Another issue of concern is the suspicious activity in the alley behind the 1900 block of Clark and Wisconsin. The problem began late last summer when a neighbor's car was taken from her garage on N. Clark Street. Later, there was a fire, suspected to be arson, in one of the town homes under construction in the same block. Since then, trespassers have been going into the vacant buildings; a fence sealing off the buildings was torn down; and cars have been parking in the alley. The police promised to do extra patrolling in the alley, and the Alderman's office has called the City to secure the area.

ICAM REPORT		
	8/23-9/23	7/23-8/22
Theft	40	70
Criminal Damage	9	5
Deceptive Practice	6	2
Battery	3	11
Assault	2	5
Narcotics	2	1
Non-criminal	2	1
Other Offense	1	1
Robbery	1	2
Weapons Violation	1	
Burglary	2	
Criminal Trespass	5	
Motor Vehicle Theft	6	
Public Peace Violation	1	Ⓣ

ENTER THE GREAT OLD TOWN TRIANGLE CHILI CONTEST

The rules are simple:

- Any kind of chili is fine. Beans, no beans; meat, no meat; red, green, or even white. If you call it chili, it's chili!
- Bring enough chili for about 10 servings (it will be our main dish for the event)
- Bring your chili in a crock pot or other container that will keep it warm. Tape your name on the bottom of the container.
- You don't have to submit your recipe, but you should label your chili as meat, vegetarian, or turkey. Also, indicate if you have used alcohol in the preparation.
- Judging will be on a 5-point scale using two main criteria: (1) approach (traditional or original) and taste.
- Judges will determine the winner.

If you don't want to make chili but would like to bring something else, we also need cole slaw and corn bread (your favorite recipe will be fine). Just let us know what you'll bring. The Triangle will supply beverages, dessert, and condiments.

Please call or e-mail Shirley by October 13 to enter the chili contest or to sign up for another dish.

Phone: 312-337-1938

e-mail: sbaugher@oldtowntriangle.com

It's not in Old Town—but a short car ride north to 4141 N. Lincoln will take you to a good new restaurant called **Browntrout**. Though this addition to the Chicago dining scene has only been open a few months,

Browntrout is attracting a lot of attention and is well worth a visit. We were especially impressed with the chef's namesake dish, pan seared Idaho golden trout prepared in brown butter with a confit of shallots, peas, mint, and toasted walnuts. This was preceded by an very tasty heirloom tomato salad and a dish of wild mushrooms with ramps. Dinner companions raved about the Tall Grass beef burger with crispy shallots and aioli and the falafel platter with baba ganoush, tzatziki, and grilled pita. Desserts were adequate, but not fabulous.

Closer to home, **Rocco's Café and Pizzeria** at 1925 N. Lincoln Avenue has become a popular gathering spot for neighbors. Featuring homey Italian dishes, it still serves some of the best thin-crust pizza around, along with excellent salads, pastas,

and soups. Just the place when you want something simple and good, but don't want to fix it yourself. The staff is very accommodating, and the atmosphere warm and inviting. Do give Roccos' a try if you haven't already.

You will be glad to know that neighbor **Betty Fromm** is recuperating at Advocate Illinois Masonic Hospital. Some weeks ago, Betty suffered a broken clavicle and was taken to Illinois Masonic for treatment. She was immobile for quite a long time, but she has been moved to the third floor rehab unit where she will remain until she is able to return home—which hopefully will only be a few more weeks.

We received a very nice letter from the 18th District Police thanking us for our contribution to the **18th District Near North Kids School Supply Drive**. Our donations directly benefited children living in the community and were distributed at the following locations: the Fullerton Court Apartments, the Marshall Field Garden Apartments, the

Evergreen Sedgwick Apartments, and the Evergreen Terrace Apartments. Among the items contributed were back packs, spiral notebooks, pens, pencils, paper, three-ring binders, crayons, and rulers. We are grateful to all who contributed.

If you are among the many OTTA members are enjoying the new Old Town Triangle decals, you can thank **Michael Warnick** who had the idea and saw it through to production and distribution. Now, the attractive green and yellow decals are showing up on windows and doors throughout the neighborhood. If you haven't received yours, please let the office know and we will get one to you.

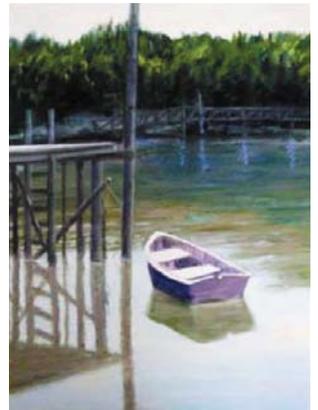
Once again, the laughter of happy children can be heard in the South room on Mondays from 11:30 to 12:00 a.m. Moms (and dads) are bringing their offspring in after Fun Club to romp and play before toddling off to afternoon activities. It's great to see them tumbling around and playing with toys that had been lying idle for a couple of years. **T**

from → p3 Nancy Pinzke. Reven and Nancy attended many painting workshops together. One of their most memorable shows recalled a trip to Provence and featured fields of lavender. She is also justly famous for her pastel portraits of family and friends. **Nancy Pinzke's** palette left the Triangle in March of 2009. Her spirit never will. She was a talented artist whose works graced the walls of the gallery in solo shows and in concert with those of her fellow students. As an artist, Nancy showed an appreciation for subjects that others overlooked. This past winter, when most of us were swearing at pot holes, Nancy turned them into works of art. Her pastel pot hole series won her a gallery show and a radio spot. She

brought her incomparable analytical skills to everything she painted, from lavender fields to seascapes. This latest show is a celebration of her life and art. **T**

Left to right top: Cindy Johnson, Nancy Penske.

Left to right bottom: Reven Fellars, Maureen Carr, Gerri Kaye.



GOOD-BYE TO ALL THAT

...an opportunity for a formal good-bye to you and to you and to you and to me and to all that forgetfulness, because once all this has been settled in my mind and written down and published, it need never be thought about again.

Robert Graves, 1929

It happens every year—twice a year as a matter of fact— in the spring and in the autumn, when the center of the sun spends an almost equal amount of time above and below the horizon at every location on earth—and night and day are roughly the same length. This phenomenon is known as the vernal and autumnal equinox—or the cusp of Aries and the first point of Libra for those interested in astrology.

For half of the year (from around March 20 to September 22, the northern hemisphere is inclined toward the sun, with the maximum around June 21. This means longer days and shorter nights for the northern hemisphere. For the other half of the year, the southern hemisphere has this distinction with the maximum around December 21, giving that hemisphere longer days and shorter nights. The autumnal equinox happened this year at 5:19 p.m. E.T., September 22. For a while, now, we will have to bundle up against this time when the sun remains shorter and lower below the horizon.

All this to say that the summer that never really was is gone—or so Tom Skilling tells us; and Tom Skilling doesn't lie, although he is sometimes wrong. Not this time. On September 27—a few days after the autumnal equinox, a powerful wind blew through the north side of Chicago, bringing about five minutes of rain, a significant temperature drop, and the palpable end of summer. Time now to say a formal good-bye to the seasonal pleasures of June, July, and August.

Good-bye to those ubiquitous flip-flops that seemed to cover (almost) the feet of every person on the street. I, for one, won't miss them.

Good-bye to pastel colors and short-sleeved tee shirts. Michael has already brought out his fleecy jackets to walk the dogs. Any day now, the red down coat will appear.

Good-bye to the fading flowers of summer. Impatiens, geraniums, petunias, lobelia, and lantana that were glorious in July are now straggly and struggling to survive. Let them go.

Good-bye to the squeals of children in the courtyard

trying vainly to throw a basketball into the hoop attached to a pole outside our back gate. Their arms (except for those of Stephanie Thams and her dad) were just too short.

Good-bye to warm weather indulgences like iced tea at Starbucks most afternoons, cold lattes at Sarah's on Friday mornings and Ryan Poli's awesome gazpacho trio.

Good-bye to the Green City market: to juicy peaches, sweet blueberries, ruby raspberries, flavorful tomatoes (well, maybe not tomatoes; they weren't all that great), crisp green beans, and sweet yellow corn.

Good-bye to daily e-mails from my grandson in Florida. This year, he turned 13, and, as most of you know, children's lives change once they cross that magical line into teendom. There are cross country meets, golf practice, more homework, harder courses, texting (I made the mistake of buying him an i-phone for his birthday), and tweeting to claim his time. But not girls—not yet, anyway. As a result, my computer screen went dark in September, and *sic transit gloria mundi*.

Good-bye to sidewalk cafés, Theater on the Lake, and outdoor concerts at the Church of the Three Crosses.

Good-bye to sun-bathing and volley ball on North Avenue Beach.

Good-bye to the Lincoln Park Trolley, which made its last run this summer.

Good-bye to the sight of Matt Beer with Kirby at his side sailing off the shores of Lake Michigan.

Good-bye to Tom and Ruth Ann Watkins, who will pack up their bags and head south before the snow falls.

Good-bye to backyard barbecues and impromptu happenings on decks throughout the neighborhood. Now the gatherings will take place around television sets for Monday night football and inside the United Center for Bulls and Hawks games.

Good-bye to young moms pushing baby carriages up and down Old Town sidewalks and to neighbors chatting over fences. Come October, they all head indoors to do whatever it is they do on chilly winter days and nights

And, good-bye to the boys of summer. October 4 marked the end of another disappointing Cubs baseball season, despite an admirable performance by the formidable Derek Lee. In an impulsive moment at Wrigley last June, I bought a "W" banner and learned the words to "Go Cubs, Go". I never used the banner (they didn't win a single game that I attended), and I was not called upon



from → p7



to demonstrate my amazing memory or vocal skills. Milton Bradley did not turn out to be the *wunderkind* who would lead the North Siders to a World Series (is Mark DeRosa laughing down in St. Louis). Ramirez got hurt early and often. Soriano was, at best, inconsistent. Carlos Zambrano punched out one too many Gator Ade coolers. And there was no closer who was better than, or even as good as, Kerry Wood. We did not make it to the playoffs, and dejected Cubs fans have, once again, taken up their all-too-familiar mantra “Wait till next year”.

And so, good-bye to all that—and to what may, or may not, be again. Wasn't it bliss? 

Help us go green. If you'd like to receive our newsletter online rather than receive a hard copy, please contact the office www.oldtown-triangle.com and sign up for e-delivery. You will receive an e-mail attachment when the most recent newsletter is available to view. Please note, the online version is available before hard copies are printed and contains color photos.