



Times

CALENDAR

2010 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



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

TRIANGLE EVENTS

February 9, 7:00 p.m.

OTTA Board Meeting

February 16, 7:00 p.m.

Neighborhood Improvements Meeting

February 16, 7:00 p.m.

HD/PZ Meeting

February 25, 7:00 p.m.

CAPS Meeting

March 9, 7:00 p.m.

OTTA Board Meeting

March 15, 7:00 p.m.

Neighborhood Improvements Meeting

March 16, 7:00 p.m.

HD/PZ Meeting

March 25, 7:00 p.m.

CAPS Meeting

SPECIAL EVENT

Dramatic Presentation

March 6, 3:30 p.m.

Old Town Triangle Association Presents

The Teahouse of the August Moon



CONTINUING

Through March 4

Franz Altschuler Retrospective

OPENINGS

March 14, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

The Art of Rine Boyer

THE OLD TOWN TRIANGLE TIMES
IS ON THE WEB IN **COLOR**

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Christine Beer, second Vice-President & Secretary; Alice Huff, Director; Jacqui Thams, Director; Fern Bomchill Davis, President; Philip Graff, First vice-President; Dirk Vos, Director; and Sue Apey, Director; Not shown, John Knoche, Treasurer; Debbie Day, Director, and Jeff Pines, Director.



Outgoing directors and officers: Michael Warnick, Matt Beer, and Martha Connolley with President Fern Bomchill Davis presiding. Thank you for your dedicated service. Additional Annual Dinner photos in the center spread.

NEWS FROM OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS

Congratulations to the Lincoln Park High School Debate Team. Elizabeth Frau and Leah Batay-Wilson were the tournament champions. Two other members of the team, **Dale Best** and **James Keene** were named semi-finalists. Others received speaker awards. The team can be very proud of their achievements.

Sophomore **Cooper Zajac** won second place in the Vehicle Sticker Design Art Contest. He received a \$500 savings bond, a certificate, and a special resolution by the City Council. And English teacher **Bart Hanson** won the Young Playwright's Festival "Teacher of the Year" Award. The award recognizes Mr. Hanson as an exemplary teacher who has inspired his students both in and out of the classroom.

Dr. Bessie Karvelas, principal of Lincoln Park High School, has announced her retirement, effective in June 2010. She thanks the community, faculty, and students for making her tenure there among the best years of her life. A search committee for a new principal has been formed.

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School will hold its annual **Friends of Lincoln auction on March 6, 2010**. This is a very important fund raiser for the school since 100 percent of the proceeds go to fund programs for students.

Lincoln principal, Mark Armendariz, says that work on the **greenhouse roof project** is moving along and that the new environmental center should be completed by Spring 2010.

Fans of our awesome **Perennial Restaurant** will be pleased to know that **uber chef, Ryan Poli** has introduced his new winter menu and it is a marvel of superlatives. Among the starters, the **duck consommé** with kale, turnips, white beans, and butternut squash tortellini is superb. Choosing an entrée is almost impossible, but for all you carnivores, the **duo of beef** is an excellent selection.



The New York strip and braised short rib will satisfy the most discriminating beef lovers and the unctuous creamy polenta with braised beef is not to be missed. I would be remiss if I

didn't mention the Remy Napa claret that now appears on the wine list. Available by the half-bottle it is the perfect accompaniment to the beef entrée. Treat yourself and a significant other for Valentine's Day.

On the bakery scene, **Lucas Tashey at Catering/Chocolate** has come up with another winner, a brioche baked in a bundt pan. This is a marvel of eggs, butter, and genius. Good on its own, it also makes an incredible bread and butter pudding.

NEWS OF THE 43RD WARD

Congratulations to **Alderman Vi Daley** (43rd Ward) who received an award from Planned Parenthood of Illinois at their Future of Choice celebration to mark 37 years since the Supreme Court's ruling in Roe v. Wade. Alderman Daley sponsored the "bubble zone" legislation which passed the City Council in October 2009. The ordinance, which restricts pro-life advocates from approaching women seeking services at reproductive health centers in Chicago, is designed to protect women's safety and privacy.

Alderman Vi Daley informs us that homeowners south of Fullerton will receive reassessment notices within the next four to six weeks according to the Cook County Assessor. Once the reassessment is received, homeowners will have 30 days to appeal should they question the numbers. Alderman Daley also reports that the City of Chicago Property Tax Relief Program may be available to Old Town residents. It is meant to provide relief between \$25 and \$200 to City homeowners hit hardest by increases to their 2008 property tax bill for primary residences. This program is needed largely because of the phase-out of the state law that put a seven percent cap on annual increases and because of the

decrease in this year's exemption. In addition, she notes that the renewal letter from the City for Seniors' 2010 sewer rebate has been delayed.

Neighbor **Terry Sullivan (The Sullivan Firm)** points out in his newsletter, The Leagle Beagle, that many clients have never prepared a will or reviewed the will they signed many years ago. He advises that every adult, regardless of age or net worth, should have a will to make sure that, after death, property will be distributed according to the benefactor's wishes. Of critical concern to parents is the designation of a guardian for minor children and the naming of a trustee to safeguard a minor's inheritance until the child reaches an age deemed appropriate. Members of the firm are available to discuss concerns about preparing or revising a will, trust, or living will.

The **South Pond** is being transformed into a nature boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo. Construction is ongoing to convert the area into a new urban ecosystem. The old concrete and steel walkway has been removed, providing space for natural shorelines and the new boardwalk. The pond's island has been re-engineered to provide a home for migratory birds, including the black-crowned night herons that nest there. The foundation has been laid for an education pavilion, and work is underway to restore the Lester E. Fisher Bridge.

Betty Fromm is home after taking a nasty fall in her house last fall. A neighbor heard her cries for help and called 911. She was taken to a hospital where she underwent surgery, and received physical therapy. Old Town neighbors rallied round their friend. They saw to it that her cats were fed. They came in to inquire why her old piano was abandoned in the driveway. They visited her and sent gifts. And, they let her know they missed her red Cardinal baseball cap bobbing down the street. Glad to have you back, Betty.

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Bounded by Clark Street, North Avenue,
and the ghost of Ogden Avenue

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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


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Franz Altschuler was a gifted illustrator, painter, and designer. As a designer, he was said to have few peers in Chicago or anywhere else. His works are a part of the permanent collection of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he first exhibited in 1949, the year he won the Pauline Palmer Prize. He taught, for many years, at the School of the Art Institute, where his students regarded him as “inspired”. He instructed them to think of an art class as a gym class, where they had to exercise and work up a sweat. “Productivity,” he said, “isn’t just for guys puddling steel. It’s a concern for the artist... doing hundreds of thumbnails just to explore ideas, writing



while you draw...virtually forcing yourself to throw up graphically until you’ve exhausted everything you have got. The real work is getting the right visual relationship.....You have to work for ideas. No technique will shield you if you don’t have an idea.” Illustration is a big part of Altschuler’s creative output—from children’s books, to modern novels, to the papers of James Madison. Among his best known children’s books are *Melinda*; *Monster Tales: Vampires, Werewolves, and Things*; *The Pup Who Did As She Pleased*; and *King Snake*. He also illustrated a history encyclopedia for Rand McNally. More recently, his watercolor, *Mother Bird*, commanded a great deal of attention when it was sold at Leslie Hindman Auctioneers. Franz Altschuler passed away on December 12, 2009 at the age of 86 after a long and productive career spanning more than 50 years. 

FEBRUARY retrospective

Franz
Altschuler




MARCH

animal series

Rine Boyer



In March, artist Rine Boyer will bring her Animal series to the Triangle Gallery. In Boyer’s words, the series focuses on the “perennial denizens of independent show spaces, used book stores, dive bars, and alternative art festivals”. Drawn to a strikingly large scale, the subjects of her work find themselves on stark backgrounds without the context of the people and places with which they chose to associate. The drawings are inspired by the work of Cy Twombly and continue Boyer’s focus on pointillism and portraiture. They are rendered in ink on a variety of papers and adhered to wood. Animal icons replace traditional crosshatching as a means of shading, but the connection between these icons and the subject is left ambiguous. Whether the animal serves as a totem to represent the subject’s personalities or a meaningless flight of fashion is left to the judgment and imagination of the viewer. The show will be up during the month of March and will have a formal opening on March 15 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Triangle Gallery. 


Judo instructor **Brett Wolf** has responded to the call for a women’s judo class in Old Town. Starting February 9, at 6:30 p.m. and continuing each Tuesday evening through March 2, Brett will conduct a 4-week class featuring conditioning and basic self defense skills. Brett is a fourth degree black belt in judo. He has over 15 years of experience training people of all ages in judo techniques.

The classes, which will be held in the south room of the Old Town Triangle Center, are offered under the aegis of the



Menomonee Club. The cost is \$15 per class. For more information, please contact Brett Wolf, 773-230-6070 or azumah4@yahoo.com

Sadly, we announce the passing of **Scott Swanson**, 36, son of longtime Old Town Art School student and friend **Gail Cotovsky**. Despite being born with a serious heart defect, Scott’s short life was filled with remarkable accomplishments. He was recognized as a leader in the field of educational technology and received a number of prestigious awards for his

discoveries. He served as a docent for the International Society for Technology in Education in Second Life, an online virtual world. He was a strategic thinking partner for leaders with the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and Cisco. In 2008, he was given the Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award from the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in Aurora, Illinois. Scott will be remembered as a dedicated counselor, an advocate for friends facing medical crises; a gourmet cook, and a devoted son. 

ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER



*flowers for beauty
brownies for a sweet tooth
fruit for a healthy heart
hearty entres
soothing sounds*





*fun for adults
and the little
ones*

*business
reports*

*new officers
and directors*



photos by Norman Baugher



*recognition for
past service*

The Teahouse of the August Moon

by John Patrick
adapted from the novel
by Vern Sneider

Saturday, March 6
3:30 p.m.

OLD TOWN
TRIANGLE CENTER
1763 N. North Park Avenue

TEAHOUSE CAST



John Blick (Sakini) John has been acting in Chicago for about six years most recently in *The Solid Gold Cadillac* at the Athenaeum Theatre. Since appearing in the Triangle production of *Our Town*, he has become managing director for the *Dog and Pony Theatre* and is producing their show, *The Twins Would Like to Say*, which is running at

the Steppenwolf Garage February 28 through April 25, 2010 as part of the Steppenwolf Visiting Companies Initiative. He is also producing their show *Dead Letter Office*, which will play at the Storefront Theater in June/July 2010. This last venture is done in conjunction with the Department of Cultural Affairs. When not on stage, he can be found working at the Old Town Merchants and Residents Association and checking out any number of wonderful spots in *Our Town*, Chicago.

Riley Loop (Sergeant Gregovich, Mr. Hokaida, Mr. Omura)

Riley Loop, 16 and an Old Town resident since birth, is a sophomore at Lincoln Park High School. He has always had an interest in theater and has performed in many school plays. Riley is an avid sportsman and currently plays on his high school soccer and



lacrosse teams. When he is not in school, playing sports, or running around with his friends, he enjoys hanging out with his friends and his dog Reiser.



Charley Jordan (Colonel Wainwright Purdy III)

Charley went to St. Ignatius High School and received his Bachelors in Theatre from St. Mary's College. He has been seen as in Oliver in *As You*

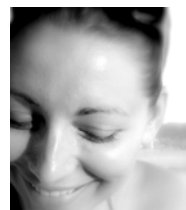
Like It, Brick in *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, Mark Anthony in *Julius Caesar*, Mark in *The Bench Mark*, and most recently as Polonius in *Hamlet*. Charley is an ensemble member of Polarity Ensemble Theater. He is excited to be with the talented cast of *Teahouse of the August Moon*. And he gives special thanks to his father, Chuck and to Candace for their ongoing support.



Christopher Cordon (Captain Fisby)

Chris has jumped from New Hampshire to Okinawa as the young captain

assigned to bring democracy and capitalism to Tobiki Village. An accomplished actor, he has been seen in productions at the Court Theatre in Chicago and Chicago Dramatists. He was often featured in Dramatists' Saturday Series Readings. Chris is a graduate of North Carolina School of the Arts. Last year, he showed his versatility by played three roles in *Our Town*.



Amy Ewaldt (Old Woman, Miss Higa Jiga)

"Miss" Amy is the Menomonee Club's (and Old Town's) favorite actress. She starred as Mrs. Gibbs in *Our Town*. An instructor at the Menomonee Club, Amy teaches arts and crafts to a group of talented young students from the Old Town area. Amy has also published a most creative children's book called, *The Wiggle Tooth*. She has performed in a number of local theater productions, and is happy to return to the stage in *Teahouse of the August Moon*.



(The children of Tobiki village) Sophia Boehm

is five years old and attends kindergarten at Suder Montessori School. She loves to dance, watch ICarly, and play with her little sister Lola. **Shelby Caroline Katz**

is a six-year-old kindergarten student at Audubon Elementary School in Roscoe Village. She loves to dress up, play with dolls, and have her friends over. She enjoys drawing, cooking with her mom, playing tennis, swimming, and shoulder riding with her daddy. Her favorite color is pink, and she wants to be a singer/



dancer when she grows up. **Jamieson Dylan Katz** is eight years old and in the second grade at Audubon Elementary. He loves gymnastics, basketball, and fast cars. When he's not doing cartwheels or walking on his hands, Jamieson can be found playing with his cat or painting a masterpiece. Jamieson loves all kinds of animals and would like to become a veterinarian one day.



Chloe Loop (Old Woman's Daughter, Lotus Blossom) Chloe Mae Loop, 21, is a senior at UW-Madison graduating this May with a double major in Chinese and International Political Economy. Her previous stage repertoire includes over ten years of performing classical ballet as well as the role of the wooden doll in the play *Vasilisa*, the Russian version of Cinderella in the sixth grade (she likes to consider herself an aspiring actress). Chloe spent two high school years in Beijing, China and has only flown through Japan, but knows its history through her studies of East Asian cultures. Having lived in the Far East and spent much of her life as a dancer, Chloe brings a wealth of experience and talent to the role of Lotus Blossom. She would like to thank everyone in Old Town for being so caring and supportive throughout the years!



Alex Shibicky (Mr. Sumata) Alex follows his acting debut *Our Town* with the role of Mr. Sumata, Number One Carpenter of Tobiki Village. Back in Old Town, is a neighborhood activist, a regular at CAPS meetings, an enthusiastic chairman for the annual Spring Clean-up, and a tireless volunteer for the Art Fair. His acting stint in *Our Town* was a labor of love for his wife, Monika, who regards that as her favorite play.



Lovely ladies—kind gentlemen, Please to introduce myself. Sakini by name. Interpreter by profession. Education by ancient dictionary. Okinawan by whim of gods.

And so begins our journey to *The Teahouse of the August Moon*. At the end of World War II, a group of American Army officers and enlisted men have been sent to occupy Okinawa and, in the process, bring democracy and prosperity to the island. To do this, they have been given "Plan B", a set of rules and guidelines written by people in Washington who have never been to Okinawa, have no

idea about its geography or its culture, and don't really know where it is.

In charge of the operation is by-the-book, or rather by-the-"Plan B", Colonel Wainwright Purdy III, (the III indicates that he is, in Sakini's words, *the son of a son of a son*). Colonel Purdy's fervent wish is to make his wife proud by putting a general's star in the center of her crown, and naming something after her.

With the prophetic words, "the eyes of Washington are upon you", he sends the hapless Captain Fisby and to accomplish the monumental task of Americanizing the natives of Tobiki village aided and abetted by the irascible Sakini. What happens next is a comedy

Roc Roney (Mr. Seiko) Roc is known to most of us as the lucky resident of the historic, purple house on North Park. His friends know him as an accomplished actor, who graced the stage in a number of high school and college productions. This is his second acting gig in Old Town. His first was as Dr. Gibbs in *Our Town*. He



comes to us now as Mr. Seiko, a young Okinawan madly in love with the beautiful, and seemingly unattainable, Lotus Blossom.



Philip Wasik (Mr. Oshira) In his working hours, Phil is one of Chicago's finest, assigned to the 18th District. In his leisure time, he is a professional actor with many distinguished roles to his credit. He has been featured in a number of television and film productions including, *The Changing Man*, *Chair Reaction*, *Converging with Angels*, *Chicago Poems*, *Resurrection Mary*, and *Lofty Intentions*. Onstage, he appeared with the ensemble at Victory Gardens Theatre in *Lip Service*, and *Broken Glass*. He performed with The Artistic Home Ensemble in *Madwoman of Chaillot*, *Clash By Night*, *Break-Room Deluxe*, and *The Time of Your Life*. He has also done television commercials and voice-overs. We are fortunate that he has brought his considerable talents to Teahouse.



Michael Warnick (Captain McLean) Michael is an experienced actor, model, and photographer. You have all seen his photographs in the Triangle newsletter, but you may not have heard his incredible baritone voice doing radio and television voiceovers in the nineties or seen his hands in ads for various products. Michael does yeoman service as Membership Chair for the Triangle Association, and as best friend to Old Town canines: Molly, Hemy, Winston, Sprungli, Gus, Rocky, Margie, Nellie, and Lacey, among others. After serving as Editor Webb in *Our Town*, Michael takes on the role of Captain McLean, a psychoanalyst sent to figure out what's wrong with Captain Fisby and the people of Tobiki. T

of errors. Instead of the pentagon-shaped school house outlined in Plan B, the villagers persuade Fisby to build a tea house and to make its feature attraction the enchanting Lotus Blossom, geisha girl first class, and a "gift" from Mr. Sumata, master carpenter of Tobiki. The members of the Ladies League for Democratic Action are more interested in learning the art of geisha than the words to the Star Spangled Banner. And the village entrepreneurs find they have far more luck selling their locally distilled sweet potato brandy to the American occupation forces than hand carved tea cups, sandals, and cricket cages.

Once the brandy production is in operation, the local economy sky- ➔ 8



rockets, the teahouse thrives, and life is almost perfect in Tobiki—until Colonel Purdy shows up and discovers what is going on.

Thinking himself and the army disgraced, he orders the stills broken up, the teahouse dismantled, and Captain Fisby sent off for court martial. Unlike the colonel, however, Washington applauds the success of the brandy enterprise and, Tobiki is singled out as a model of capitalistic ingenuity. Congress even sends a special committee to study their methods, along with photographers to shoot a magazine spread. The Colonel is devastated, wishing that, for once, underlings had disobeyed his orders. But his despair is short-lived. Showing their remarkable survival instincts, the villagers reveal that they have only broken up old water barrels and not the stills—and that they have safely hidden away the lumber used in the teahouse. Everything is reassembled in a matter of minutes and happiness returns to Tobiki under the light of an August moon.

Appearing in this always hilarious, and often poignant, production is a talented

group of Old Town Players: **John Blick** fresh from his success as George in last year's production of *Our Town*, switches gears completely to become the irascible Sakini, an Okinawan wise beyond his years and more than a match for Purdy's Plan B. **Riley Loop** succumbs to the lure of the footlights again and shows his acting versatility by taking on three roles: Sergeant Gregovich, Colonel Purdy's right hand man; Mr. Hokaida, a champion wrestler, and Mr. Omura a maker of chopsticks. A newcomer to the Old Town stage, but not to the theater, is **Charley Jordan** as Colonel Purdy. It won't take neighbors long to recognize that Charley is the son of our own Chuck Jordan. The handsome and talented **Christopher Cordon** plays Captain Fisby who has the formidable task of bringing capitalism and democracy to Tobiki. **Amy Ewaldt** (our darling Miss Amy) returns as the Old Woman and Miss Higa Jiga, head of the Ladies League for Democratic Action and geisha-in-training. As the Old Woman's daughter and as Lotus Blossom, the beautiful and talented **Chloe Loop** brings both pride and prestige to Tobiki Village. Having her dance in the Teahouse of the

August Moon more than fulfills everyone's dream. **Sophia Boehm, Shelby Katz, and Jamieson Katz** sparkle as the darling village children. **Alex Shibicky** goes from constable (*Our Town*) to carpenter and benefactor. As Mr. Sumata, he is responsible for bringing Lotus Blossom to Tobiki and unleashing the mischief that ensues. **Roc Roney** (Doc Gibbs in *Our Town*) plays Seiko, the smitten young suitor who loves, loses, and then wins the hand of Lotus Blossom. **Philip Wasik** is the wise and loveable Mr. Oshira, who has excelled in the ancient craft of making lacquered cups. **Michael Warnick** is Sergeant McLean, sent by Colonel Purdy to observe Captain Fisby when everything seems to be going wrong. McLean, an avid horticulturalist, veers from psychoanalysis to crop analysis when the brandy business gets going and the sweet potatoes need fertilizing. Oh yes, there is a goat, **Lady Astor**. She will play herself. Directed by Shirely Baugher

The Teahouse of the August Moon will be presented at the Old Town Triangle Center on Saturday, March 6, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Admission is free, and we hope all friends and neighbors will join us. 