



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



RICK RAUSCH

Spring is here and our annual ritual of renewal has begun. We all will soon be at the garden shop buying our flowers and cleaning up the mess of this past winter.

Fifty years ago there was a much larger renewal in Old Town that permanently changed our neighborhood. The City with federal support started what became known as **Urban Renewal**

in and around Old Town. Part of that urban renewal was to close Ogden Avenue in 1967 from North Avenue up to Clark Street.* This created the land to build many single family homes and townhouses from St. Michael's Church up to Clark and Armitage. It also created the open spaces we now call Ogden Park (Menomonee at Hudson), Ella Jenkins Park (Wisconsin at Sedgwick) and Ogden Plaza (Wisconsin at Lincoln). This project also funded the installation of many of the red brick sidewalks and parkways that define the Old Town Triangle.

But, that was 50 years ago and minimal work has been done to renew these areas since the mid-60's. In a meeting last fall with the 43rd Ward

Alderman Michele Smith, we talked about the need to have a 2nd Urban Renewal in our neighborhood that would include upgrading many or all of the areas that were created 50 years ago when Ogden Avenue was removed. She agreed, but said any project of that scope will require a major involvement of the Neighborhood Association as well as the local neighbors and businesses.

I think it is time OTTA starts the process of a 2nd Urban Renewal in The Triangle. It will be a huge undertaking and something that will take years, if not decades, to complete. The next time you walk by any of these areas, think about how they will look in 20 years without our help, and then think about how good it could look with our help. The City will not give us a 2nd Urban Renewal in most of our lifetimes. Only the efforts of the leadership and membership of OTTA can make that happen. Let's make this happen together and let's start today. Will you join me? 🌸

Best Regards,

Rick Rausch, President

Get Involved. Be a volunteer.

** For more information about the closing of Ogden Avenue, see Diane Gonzalez's story in the July/August 2013 OTTA Newsletter.*



COMMITTEE NEWS | Update: The 66th Annual Old Town Art Fair in Full Bloom

By Linda Saindon (Triangle resident since 2013)

It's springtime and this young lady's thoughts are turning to.....the Old Town Art Fair. As this year's Chairperson, I'm very excited to see people, plans and progress in full swing on development of the 66th Annual Old Town Art Fair & Garden Walk. This year's Fair will take place on Saturday and Sunday June 13-14, 2015 in the heart of the Triangle from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

The Old Town Art Fair (OTAF) is nationally ranked #2 in the country and with good reason. Artists are selected by an independent jury of many of Chicago's most respected artists, gallery owners, and museum curators. Fair attendees will meet the artists and have an opportunity to view and purchase exceptional pieces of art, including painting, photography, printmaking, ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry, art works in metal, stone, wood and mixed-media. This year's slate of 250 juried fine artists will showcase their work while over 20,000 fair-goers meet and mingle in the Triangle, listening to live music and enjoying food and drink courtesy of Phil Stefani's Restaurant Group.

This year's OTAF will again feature the Garden Walk through our beautiful nationally registered historic landmark neighborhood, with over 60 gardens on abundant display. There will also be children's activities at the Children Corner hosted by the Menomonee Club. We look forward to welcoming new and returning fair sponsors including Treasure Island, The

Art Institute of Chicago, Harrington College of Design, The Second City, Phil Stefani Restaurant Group and more.

While fun is always on the OTAF's agenda, it's important to note how critical the Fair is to the caretaking of our neighborhood and the programs and organizations that the Old Town Triangle Association serves and supports. Fair revenues are the single largest contributor to our Association – so please, support this year's fair in any way you can!



A 66-year tradition, the Triangle welcomes artists, neighbors and thousands of visitors to our nationally recognized, outdoor, juried art fair!

(Continued on page 2)

How Can You Support the Fair?

There are several ways to get involved and support this year's Fair:

CONNECT

Like us on Facebook and Twitter for a fun and easy way to stay connected to Fair news and happenings. You can also sign up for email blasts via the Old Town Triangle Association's website (www.oldtowntriangle.com).

DONATE

You can make a direct contribution to the Old Town Art Fair as a *Friend of the Fair*. Donations can be made by check or via Paypal on the Old Town Triangle Association website. All donations are fully tax-deductible!!

VOLUNTEER

The Old Town Triangle Association hosts and produces the OTAF with the assistance of over 600 volunteers. This year we are in need of volunteers for a range of support activities including Booth Sitting, First Sight Gala Event Planning, Artist's Breakfast, Gates and more. All volunteers receive complimentary access to the OTAF all weekend long as well as an invitation to the Volunteers Thank You Party the week after the Fair. Those interested in volunteering please email volunteers@oldtownartfair.org.

ATTEND

Your attendance and gate donation is an important part of making this year's fair a success. The entrance fee donation goes directly to supporting our schools and organizations and maintaining our neighborhood.

DURING THE FAIR, PLEASE PARK ELSEWHERE

A reminder that parking and towing restrictions will be in effect in order to clear the streets for fair set up June 13 and June 14. The OTAF is held in the Old Town Triangle bounded by North Park, Wisconsin, Lincoln Park West and Menomonee. Please find alternatives for parking outside of the fair boundaries on these days. Towing starts at 5:00 am sharp!!!

On behalf of the Old Town Triangle Association and this year's Planning Committee, thanks and we'll see you at the 66th Annual Old Town Art Fair! 🌸

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Get Involved. Be a volunteer.



Nothing says "Hello Summer" more than the Old Town Art Fair, which jumpstarts Chicago's summer festival season in sunny style!

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT | There's No Place Like Home...on Fern Court

By Rich Christian (Triangle resident since 1979)

Fern Court, that "funny little street" (or is it an alley?) next to the Buddhist Temple, has become the micro-neighborhood of my dreams. But it didn't just suddenly happen. This group of houses, apartments, coach houses which back onto or face Fern Court, are the homes of people who have become friends, who care about each other and who look out for each other. When I moved into the neighborhood in 1988, I knew no one, and no one knew me. Ten years later, it was basically the same. So what happened?

In 2004, neighbor Kathleen McHugh and others, relatively new to Fern Court, threw a spontaneous rice wine tasting pre-Ginza Festival. This grew into an annual Progressive Holiday Party held in three homes early each December. The night of that first progressive there was a heavy winter storm. Everyone had boots, warm coats, great spirits, and name tags! No driving. Hard to believe we're on our 11th Annual Progressive Party this year!

Other events followed: We celebrated the neighbor who was interested enough in beautifying the street by asking the mayor for help with the massive clean-up of the "spaghetti" of phone, power, and cable TV lines identifying Fern Court as an alley (after years of trying the regular channels). A Halloween Party of 30 kids wearing 3D glasses showed up



Block Party featuring Pony Rides.



Halloween Party at Sedgwick Productions - Charlie Brown Great Pumpkin with 3D Glasses.

in my production studio for a movie, to watch the Charlie Brown Great Pumpkin. There was the Block Party with pony rides, and the children were invited to sit in extraordinary imported vintage mini automobiles



The Fern Court Gang at one of the Annual Progressive Holiday Parties.

coming from the "museum" in the garage next door.

Amazing things started to happen. When neighbors said hi, they stopped and asked what was going on. You didn't just wave or drive by. You paused your daily rush to ask important questions: "That cancer your son has; how is he doing? I'll say prayers." "Are you free for dinner next Wednesday?" Before long, you discover that your neighborhood is a great resource: our pediatrician, and our dentist; Cub Scout leaders, architects, professors and teachers, marketers, event producers, I T people, Iron man athletes, recycling experts, children sharing schools and selling cookies or popcorn...holy cow!

The secret of our bonding as a micro-neighborhood? The leadership of a few, some good wine, great food and sharing time together a few times a year. This is the magic of Fern Court. ❁

IN THE SPOTLIGHT | The Harris Family Band: Making Music on "America's Got Talent", Season 10

By Diane Fitzgerald (Triangle resident since 1997)

In case you missed them at the opening of The Apple Store on North Avenue in 2012 or at The French Market or even the Old Town Art Fair, you'll get your chance to see and hear the fantastic Harris Family Band on the season premiere of America's Got Talent, Season 10 (Tuesday, May 26, NBC at 7pm CT)! Mom Allison Harris updates us with this:

"We are back from NY area auditions which were March 2....we were lucky enough to be in the first group auditioning for the celebrity judges for Season 10! They conducted 5 days of twice-daily tapings that first week of March at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center and then they will do another week in LA April 6-10.

We cannot disclose the outcome. Judges Howard Stern, Mel B, Heidi Klum and Howie Mandel voted on the spot! The show runs through the summer. The producers saw 10,000 people nationwide for auditions, and invited just 260 acts to the celebrity judge round -- so we count ourselves very fortunate to have been invited for such an amazing opportunity. It's a real testimonial to the kids' talents! We are looking forward to singing back here at home, though :) Nothing like Chicago and home :)"

The Harris Family Band consists of three Chicago siblings, all almost too young to drive: Olivia (18), Jack (15), and Julia (12). Growing up with rootsy folk, gospel, and rock music, they learned to love artists like Joni Mitchell and Crosby Stills & Nash, as well as more modern day artists like The Wood Brothers and Nickel Creek. The Harris Family got their start playing block parties and farmer's markets around Chicago just 5 years ago.

The family has lived in the vicinity of the Triangle since 2004 and Olivia, Jack and Julia have performed at the Old Town Art Fair since 2011, to the thrill of thousands of fair-goers. In their spare time, Olivia is a senior at Lincoln Park High School, graduating this spring! Jack is a sophomore at Jones College Prep. Julia is in 7th grade at LaSalle Language Academy. Both Olivia and Jack attended LaSalle as kindergarteners and graduated



Olivia, Julia and Jack Harris in the contestant's holding room during the Celebrity Judge round on "America's Got Talent".

from there. All three kids benefitted from multiple programming opportunities at the Menomonee Club including cooking, tumbling, theater, and other classes.

Keep up with the Band on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TheHarrisFamilyBand?ref=hl>. See them on YouTube performing in November 2014 at Martyrs (3855 N Lincoln Avenue) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OiviLNNGD-k>. And don't miss them on June 13-14 playing in front of the Menomonee Club during the Old Town Art Fair! ❁

GET INVOLVED. BECOME A MEMBER! MEMBERSHIPS START AT \$20/ YEAR. CALL 312-337-1938

IN THE FIRST PERSON | More on Marge's Still | By David Pfendler (Triangle resident since 1951)

I enjoyed reading the article about *Marge's Still* in the November/December 2014 edition of *The Times*. All the wonderful things that have been written about Marge's are true. I can tell you a few more. From the late 1950s through the mid-60s, Old Town had a Little League franchise. It had six "Babe Ruth" league teams (ages 13-15), six Little League teams (ages 10-12), and about five minor league teams (age 9). The minor league teams, consisting of about 300 young boys from the greater Triangle area, were instructional only and did not have a formal game schedule. They were housed in the Menomonee Club, and the OTTA paid for the majority of the uniforms. Those uniforms were worn with great pride; I get a bit misty when I remember how important they were to some of my friends, who in some cases didn't have much more to be proud of in their lives. The National Little League headquarters in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, always marveled that there were no commercial sponsors' names sewn on the back of our OTT shirts, as was the arrangement for most other Little League franchises. I was on the "White Sox," and the uniform looked just like that of our Chicago major league team. Every year we were given new hats with the same logo as in the majors, and that was the coolest thing of all! I believe Marge contributed money to the League, but she also gave something more. In those days, there were two traditional "watering holes" for the men of the Little League: Marge's and Twin Anchors. While there was always enough business to go around, there seems to have been an informal rivalry between the two as they both vied for the beer money of the League's local men, numbering about 70. Cy, the proprietor of Twin Anchors, always put up pictures behind the bar of the league "All-Stars," those who had been chosen by the coaches to represent the League in the Little League World Series competition. Marge, the owner of Marge's, let the coaches of the Little League have their meetings in her bar. I know this because one time, as I looked at the Old Town Junior Baseball Inc. letterhead, I noticed the address was that of Marge's. Perhaps the address was to impress the Williamsport people or perhaps an office was a requirement for the League, I don't know. But what I do know is that it was good for Marge's business and it was surely good for the 'hood. And the rest is history. THANK YOU, MARGE'S! 🌸



The 1959 Old Town Little League Champions – The White Sox! Back Row (l.to r): Mr. Rosy, Richie Rosy, David Pfendler, Roger Kruger, Mr. Ocepka, Sr. Middle Row: Ronnie Rodriguez, Unknown, Bill Ocepka, Jr., Ron Meyer. Front Row: Robin Roynon, Unknown, Pauly "Pee Wee" Ocepka.

FOODBYTES | MUNCH MADNESS | By Diane Sokolofski (Culinary Professional and Triangle resident in 1969-1970 and since 2006)



Chess Pie by Carlton Christian

Spring brings a renewal of fresh ideas, awakening our senses and palate to new fresh flavors and foods. Research tells us people are snacking more with 91% of adults snacking once a day and increasingly eating snack foods along with their main meals. Traditional mealtimes of 3 meals a day are on the decline with healthier snacking throughout the day as the new meal norm blurring boundaries between meals and snacks. Trending snacks have health attributes and feel good nutrition, like probiotics and protein rich snacks. What's hot? Posh jerky, pea protein, chickpeas, high-class popcorn, brogurt, mini-portions, veggies, beans, chia and even insects and bars made with cricket flour (CHIRP!), according to FoodNavigator-USA. The "snackification" of breakfast with healthy snacks filling the gap are replacing conventional breakfast foods; muesli bites, waffle bars in portable pouches, Belvita biscuits.

What's interesting about the current phenomenon is what, as well as how, Americans view "the nosh". According to Darren Seifer, a food and beverage industry analyst, "Attitudes around snacking have changed: In the 1980s, 70% of people said they tried to avoid snacking entirely; today only 40% reported doing so. When asked what their motivation is, about half of the time it's to satisfy a 'functional' need, such as health, or simply because they were hungry. The other half of the time it's emotional, such as 'I had a craving.'"

I asked our Old Town neighbors, "What are your "go to" snacks? And when do you eat them?" Colleen and Carlton Christian weighed in. Carlton bakes Chess Pie, a family recipe that's been passed down for generations. "We all love it (no wonder with all that sugar, eggs, and dairy) and enjoy it together after dinner," said Mom, Debra Walker. Colleen's favorite after school snack is dipping sweet pickles into cream cheese. Munch monster in-residence Ed Sokolofski prefers the Ed Mix, a combo of smoked almonds and hand cubed cheddar cheese. My pick, grapes. When a "snack attack" hits, try this fun nutritious gluten free snack, Quick Guac: Halve a ripe unpeeled avocado, remove pit, fill with salsa, and eat with corn tortilla chips.

Neighbor dentist Payam Zarei recommends natural cheese as a great snack as far as teeth are concerned. Natural cheese neutralizes the acids in the mouth. Other great snacks are meats, vegetables and most fruits. However, excess amounts of highly acidic fruits, like lemons, have the potential to erode tooth enamel. Drinking water is helpful. Or choose sugar-free gum and candy in moderation. Payam visits LaSalle Language Academy

FOODBYTES | MUNCH MADNESS | (Continued from page 4)

every year and talks to students about caring for teeth, recommending healthy food choices.

Snacks have even taken on a new persona called Snackwave – coined by two writers on TheHairpin.com.

“It’s a term we’ve coined to describe the current Internet phenomenon of young women and teenage girls expressing an obsession with snack food.” Basically, snacks become a stand in for the online self.

What’s next???? Don’t miss the Recipe for Chess Pie at www.oldtowntriangle.com. 

Spreading the word about food and teeth: Sugar Bug Chuck Demes (left) Principal Heurtefeu, LaSalle Language Academy, Captain Fluoride Payam Zarei.



COMMUNITY CORNER | Compiled by Diane Fitzgerald (Triangle resident since 1997)

Did you know that many of Chicago’s museums offer FREE MUSEUM DAYS throughout the year? For a list of them, go to <http://www.timeout.com/chicago/kids/activities/free-museum-days>. Of course, the Lincoln Park Zoo is always free!

LINCOLN PARK VILLAGE is at the forefront of “the village movement” in the US. Adults 50+ from all over Chicago’s north side neighborhoods have found community, connection, engagement and fun. LPV offers a full roster of events, activities and programs every month as well as services for members. For more information, call 773-248-8700 or visit www.lincolnparkvillage.org.



THE MENOMONEE CLUB's Spring Session begins on April 6th! Try out new programs like Lacrosse Or Gold, or join them for an Old Town favorite Fun Club at the Clubhouse! Weekly Summer Camps are offered in June, July and August and there’s something for everyone. For more information, visit www.menomoneeclub.org or call Sara Bosaw at 312-664-4631.

THE CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM (<http://www.chicagohistory.org/>) Visit *The Secret Lives of Objects*, an exhibit that explores artifacts from the Museum’s crates, shelves and vaults. Save-the-Dates: May 7th “Out at CHM Presents StoryCorp’s OutLoud” and May 8th-9th for CHM’s 24-hour annual event of exclusive tours that reveal essential Chicago stories and lead you off the beaten path!

Hawaiian Party The MIDWEST BUDDHIST TEMPLE (www.midwestbuddhisttemple.org)



at MBT

Date for the Hawaiian Party on Saturday, May 16 from 5-8pm, featuring dance, singing, ukulele accompaniment and flaming knife tosses! Tickets are \$30 adults,

\$15 children under 12. Dinner, games and activities included. For more information, call 312-943-7801.

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL is our neighborhood elementary school. The OTTA Center became *Thin Mint Heaven* when it served as the distribution center for all the Girl Scout cookies sold by the Lincoln Elementary troops! Lincoln Girl Scouts sold over 11,000 boxes of cookies raising over \$7,000 for their troops. Lincoln is the highest-selling school in their Service Unit and boasts 150 Lincoln Girl Scouts and a troop at every grade level. The Lincoln troops would like to thank the OTTA for their support of our community in this amazing accomplishment.




Learn more about Lincoln Elementary School by visiting www.lincoln.cps.k12.il.us.

LINCOLN PARK HIGH SCHOOL (www.lincolnparkhs.org) As both a neighborhood school with attendance boundaries and a high school with three magnet programs, LPHS students come from 150 elementary schools. It is diverse academically, ethnically and socioeconomically—a slice of Chicago. Their annual fundraising event, *Lion Pride Night*, will be held Friday, April 24, 2015 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church. Tickets are \$80 for a night of entertainment, food, beverages and an auction. For more information visit the Friends of Lincoln Park High School website (<https://flphs.ejoinme.org/?tabid=667480>) or email folphs@gmail.com.



Our **CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT'S 18th DISTRICT** holds CAPS Meetings (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) for the **10 Sector** which includes Beats 1811, 1812, 1813 and 1814 at the Old Town Triangle Center on the second Thursday of every odd month. **THURSDAY, May 14th at 6:30 pm**. For more information, call the Precinct at 312-742-5870.

THE GREENHEART SHOP (<http://greenheartshop.org>) has an exciting agenda of spring events including a *Chapin Coffee Tasting* on Saturday, May 2nd. Socially conscious and Old Town-based, fair trade coffee company Chapin founders share their journey from farm to mug. For more information, call Kara Rhodebeck at 312-264-1625. 

Historic District / Planning & Zoning Committee

By Karl Hjerpe, Chairman (Triangle Resident since 1996)

I'd like to introduce myself as the new subcommittee chairman and thank outgoing chair Lance Hornaday for his work and insight over the last few years. The HDPZ subcommittee's role is to act as a liaison between home or business owners in the Triangle District and the Chicago Commission on Landmarks (CCL) in obtaining building permits. We also weigh in on zoning issues, all with the intent of preserving the architectural and historic character of our wonderful community.

Renovating a historic home can be a daunting, stressful task – balancing your own desires with those of architects, contractors, neighbors and the various departments of the city. We are here to help. Our committee of volunteers represents, literally, decades of all that is the Old Town Triangle, and most have specific personal experience in renovation. If you are contemplating renovating/restoring all or part of your property, I invite you to start your conversation with me or any of the members of the HDPZ.

We meet at 7pm on the third Tuesday of the month at the Triangle Center to hear presentations from permit applicants, discuss community building/zoning issues, and render opinions to the CCL. Anyone with a passion for architectural and building history or with new suggestions for the OTTA in that regard is welcome to attend. I also welcome anyone further motivated to join our committee to contact me. I or any committee member can be contacted through the Triangle Office. 🌸

Get Involved. Be a volunteer. 🌸 🌸 🌸

Events Committee | By Anne Giffels, Chairperson (Triangle Resident from 1996-2000 and since 2006)

Spring has sprung, and the Events Committee is busy, as usual. After a successful Taste of Old Town dinner at our Annual Meeting, we turned our focus to the Alderman elections for the 43rd and 2nd Wards. On January 29th, the Old Town Triangle Association hosted a candidates' forum for both Wards. We were packed to the walls as residents gathered to hear from a total of 11 candidates about plans for Old Town. Since both Wards have a run-off election, we held a second debate on March 19th for the four run-off candidates. Once again, Old Town turned out in large numbers to hear from the candidates.

We kicked off what we hope will be a series of events we are calling "One Night Affairs". The purpose of these fun, one-night educational events is to provide an opportunity for OTTA members to share their passions or hobbies with their neighbors. Our first event, "Bellinis and Bling!" was an evening of jewelry-making and it was a great success. Look for future events to come such as learning to play Bridge, flower arranging and wine tasting. We are actively looking for volunteers to lead an event.

We are making plans for our spring event, so watch for an announcement soon! Some neighbors have started to identify events they want to see, such as kid-friendly activities, so if you have an idea, let us know! We would love to connect you with neighbors and bring events to OTTA. 🌸



Standing Room Only at the January 29 "Meet the Candidates"

APRIL

Friday, April 3rd- Saturday April 11
PASSOVER

Sunday, April 5th – EASTER

Sunday, April 12th, 2 – 5 p.m.
GALLERY RECEPTION - "EXPRESSIONS OF LIGHT"
MAUREEN CARR, GAIL COTOVSKY,
GERRY KAYE, RENEE MACARUS
EXHIBITION: APRIL 4TH -MAY 15TH

Tuesday, April 14th, 7 p.m.
BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, April 15th, 7 p.m.
NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE (NIC)

Tuesday, April 21st, 7 p.m.
HISTORIC DISTRICT, PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

MAY

Saturday, May 2nd, 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.
GREEN CITY MARKET OPENING DAY
GREENCITYMARKET.ORG

Sunday, May 10th – MOTHER'S DAY

Tuesday, May 12th, 7 p.m.
BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 14th, 6:30 p.m.
CAPS MEETING

Tuesday, May 19th, 7 p.m.
HISTORIC DISTRICT, PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 20th, 7 p.m.
NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Sunday, May 24th, 5:30 – 10 a.m.
BIKE THE DRIVE | WWW.BIKETHEDRIVE.ORG

Monday, May 25th, – MEMORIAL DAY

Thursday, May 28th, 6:30 p.m.
EXHIBITORS COMMITTEE

Sunday, May 31st, 2 – 5 p.m.
STUDENT/FACULTY ART SHOW GALLERY RECEPTION
EXHIBITION: MAY 22ND – JULY 2ND

JUNE

Friday, June 5th
FIRST SIGHT GALA

Saturday, Sunday June 13th & 14th, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
OLD TOWN ART FAIR

Friday, June 19th, 6 – 10 p.m.
VOLUNTEER THANK YOU PARTY & GRANTS AWARDS PRESENTATION

Sunday, June 21st
FATHER'S DAY

The Second City's Ambitious Second Act

Comedy darling and Old Town neighbor The Second City is blazing past the half-century mark with absolutely no sign of slowing down. In fact, Second City is accelerating its business in some exciting new ways, by parlaying its legendary approach to comedy into a unique extension of its brand that includes new shows, teaching for personal and professional growth, and even corporate training and events. I recently sat down with veteran producer Alison Riley to find out what's new and what's happening.

Humble Beginnings Cultivate Marquee Talent Originally located at 1842 North Wells Street, Second City began as a small neighborhood improv comedy troupe hosting shows on a single stage. The actors all lived in the Old Town neighborhood, and debuted their first production, "Excelsior! And Other Outcries," on a snowy December evening in 1959. Actor Alan Arkin was part of this original founding troupe. From there, more revues followed, and under the guidance of Director and Co-founder Paul Sills, Second City began to make a name for itself and excelled at attracting and cultivating breakthrough comedy talent, featuring performers like Joan Rivers, Avery Schreiber, Peter Boyle, Harold Ramis, John Belushi, Bill Murray, John Candy, Dan Aykroyd, Eugene Levy, Catherine O'Hara, Gilda Radner, George Wendt, Shelley Long, Martin Short, and Jim Belushi.

Second City moved to its current location at 1616 Wells in 1967. With a new space, the troupe continued to host successful shows that featured the likes of Bonnie Hunt, Mike Myers, Steve Carell, Chris Farley, Tim Meadows, Amy Sedaris, and Tina Fey, as well as rising stars like Maribeth Monroe and Keegan-Michael Key.

A Successful Comedy Formula Sparks Growth Second City's success is evident in its expansion to new locations like their Toronto-based theater, as well as touring shows that travel around the globe to areas including Austria, The Netherlands, United Arab Emirates, Singapore, and Iraq.



Second City's Main Stage show, "Panic on Cloud 9" is now playing. On stage (l. to r.): Chelsea Devantez, Paul Jurewicz, Emily Walker and Christine Tawfik (Photo Credit: photo by Todd Rosenberg)



The Second City is located at 1616 N. Wells Street, its second home on Wells Street since its founding in 1950 (Photo Credit: Johnny Knight).

Second City also boasts an exclusive arrangement with Norwegian Cruise Line, providing improv comedy to 14,000 happy passengers per week across the fleet's ships.

New offerings like training, education, and events are handled by a separate group called Second

City Communications, which has made a name for itself as an industry leader bringing improv-based methodologies to the corporate sector.

Another offshoot, called Second City Works, helps clients to create improv-based learning, digital content, and entertainment. This team works with corporate clients to develop or refine their brand positioning and communications approach – helping craft messages that people want to listen to, and helping companies engage their workforce. In short, Second City Works helps companies develop winning strategies that win over customers.

Onward and Upward Second City's growth has also created the need for more space, and at this time it's hard at work refurbishing most of the Piper's Alley space for additional office, performance theater, and event space. The area above Starbucks will house training space as well as open areas where students and participants can connect and relax.

With so much happening, it's wonderful to see the continued success of our long-time neighbor Second City. As Producer Alison Riley says, "We're excited to introduce this art form to more people and have the space to accommodate new programming."

Writer's Notes: If you're looking to see a show at Second City, you're in luck because there are shows running seven days a week. And while there is definitely a nightclub atmosphere at Second City, the shows are not restricted to those over age two, and best of all, there is no drink minimum! Also good to know: The comedy troupe still hosts a free third set weeknights at 10:30 pm – very popular with students! You can find out more about the current and upcoming roster of shows, show times, and tickets by visiting the website at www.secondcity.com. We certainly appreciate the iBOT discount they offer OTTA members! If you're interested in learning more about corporate events and training, go to www.secondcity.com/works/. 🌸

iBOT (I Buy Old Town) is a discount loyalty program for OTTA members offering services, merchandise and products at special rates by Old Town merchants. See www.oldtowntriangle.com for a complete list of merchants and discounts. To receive your personal iBOT card, visit the Triangle Office.

OTTA COMMITTEES | The full roster of OTTA Committees and their leaders include:

By-Laws – Rick Rausch	Events – Anne Giffels/Dee DeCarlo	Neighborhood Relations – open
Capital Improvements – Chris Huff	Grants – Diane Gonzalez	Neighborhood Improvements – Robert Jones
Communications – Anne Giffels	Historic District/Planning & Zoning – Karl Hjerpe	Old Town Art Fair – Linda Saindon
Continuing Education – Claire Leaman	Membership – Chris Nelson	



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OldTownTriangle

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

THE OLD TOWN TRIANGLE ASSOCIATION IS A COMMUNITY-BASED, NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS WHO LIVE IN AN AREA OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO BOUNDED BY NORTH AVENUE, CLARK STREET AND THE GHOST OF OGDEN AVENUE ("THE TRIANGLE").

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday through Friday
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please feel free to contact Leslie Wolfe or
Barb Guttmann during office hours

OFFICERS

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DEE DeCARLO

ANNE GIFFELS

DIANE GONZALEZ

CHRIS HUFF

CHRIS NELSON

DAVID PFENDLER

SAVE THE DATES

The 66th Old Town Art Fair & Garden Walk

Chicago's Original Art Fair!

Saturday, June 13th 10am-6pm | Sunday, June 14th 10am-6pm

First Sight Friday Night | Friday, June 5th

Old Town Art Center Gallery: May & June, 2015



Expressions of Light in Watercolor and Pastel

by Maureen Carr, Gail Cotovsky, Cynthia Johnson, Gerri Kaye,
and Renee Macarus

Extended: April 4 – May 15, 2015

These artists, all of whom have studied at the Old Town Art Center, will exhibit Expressions of Light just as the coveted light of spring creeps back into play.

OTAC Student-Faculty Exhibition

Exhibition: May 23 – July 2, 2015

Reception for the Artists: Sunday, May 31st 2-5pm

This is the show to kick off the Art Season at the Triangle. We are proud to showcase the work of Roger Bole, Marie Burke, Tom Francesconi, Kathleen Newman, and Didier Nolet and their many students.

