

FEATURE HIGHLIGHTS

Review the OTTA financial results in the annual Treasurer's Report Year End Summary for Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2021.....[Page 1, 2](#)

Get your tickets for THEN AND NOW - OUR OLD TOWN Gala Fundraiser on Friday, September 24TH at the Chicago History Museum from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Tickets are \$100 per person. Click here to register www.oldtowntriangle.com/thenandnow/#!event-register.....[Page 2](#)

Learn why the Old Town Art Fair was "the best art fair of one artist's career" in the Art Fair Committee Report[Page 2](#)

Find your Fair photo and photos of neighbors and family in Photo Gallery.....[Page 3](#)

Did you know the Triangle has 13 alleys that were designed to provide a service lane for dirty, daily activities? Check out the Alley Audit to discover where they are hidden in Neighborhood Spotlight.....[Page 5](#)

The Wintrust Bank building housed three financial institutions that have supported the Old Town neighborhood for 60 years. Find out the story in History of Old Town.....[Page 7.8](#)



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello and *felice estate!* What a wonderful summer it has been for Old Town. From the tremendously successful Old Town Art Fair to the Volunteer Thank You Party for the wonderful volunteers who made it that way. It was dancing and celebrating on North Park Avenue.

Good things are happening at the OTTA. Classes have continued and we had our first gallery opening with *Capturing Character in People and Places* by award winning painter and printmaker Joe Taylor.

Fall is coming and we continue to look forward. Right now, Kathy Clark, Eurydice Chrones and their enthusiastic team are working hard on the **Then and Now - Our Old Town** event. It is shaping up to be THE celebration of the year. The fundraising party, formerly First Sight, will be Friday, September 24th at the Chicago History Museum. Socialize with neighbors, view the *Vivian Maier: In Color Collection*, or buy yourself a treasure in the Auction. Let's invite friends to come and share this experience.

At the August 10th Board meeting, a resolution was made to establish an ad hoc Accessibility Committee (ACCESS). This committee will gather information from industry experts and advocates to understand how the Association (and the Art Fair) can become an advocate for accessibility. The

goal is to ensure our neighborhood and the OTTA-sponsored events and facilities are open and welcoming to people of all abilities and backgrounds.

ACCESS will work closely with the Historic District/ Planning & Zoning Committee to study how other historic districts are accommodating needs of people that become disabled and what the law requires. As its initial Chair, I ask that anyone interested in being on this committee to contact me. My hope is that we get many diverse volunteers.

The year is flying by, and a good deal has been done. For this I would like to thank the OTTA Board Members and all the volunteers who give so much time and effort to make things happen around here. They are an incredible group of people to work with!

Have a safe and healthy rest of summer.

Dorothy DeCarlo

Dorothy DeCarlo
president@oldtowntriangle.com



Join Your Friends and Neighbors at the OTTA
Then And Now - Our Old Town Gala On Friday,
September 24th at the Chicago History Museum
From 6:00 Pm To 10:00 Pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year End Summary - Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2021

By Brad Neuman, OTTA Treasurer

The biggest determinant of this year's financial results was obtaining the permit for the Art Fair. The decision to pursue the Fair was not obvious in January when the odds looked very long. But determination, creative problem-solving and good fortune won the day. And what days they were! The artists made sorely needed, wonderful sales and the Fair produced a record profit. Gate (admission) revenue was \$307,000, 70% higher than the previous record! We so appreciate the efforts of Anne Giffels and Barbara Guttman, the leadership of Dorothy DeCarlo and the huge group of volunteers who devoted their time and talent even when there was a significant chance the City might not grant a permit. Special thank you to the Friends of the Fair who generously contributed \$17,000 and to the patrons who made it such a successful year for the artists.

The most material variance for the year was insurance. The carrier for the Directors and Officers coverage declined to renew. The new carrier's premium was \$23,110, up from \$3,321. The premium for the General Liability policy (which just renewed and will be reflected in the next fiscal year) is now \$12,220, up from \$9,689. Future problems could make the organization uninsurable. The Board is in the process of establishing policies (including a code of conduct) and considering alternative HD/PZ approaches to reduce risk. The revised policies will also be used to help convince the carriers that the premiums should be reduced.

Old Town Triangle Association

Summary of Income and Expenses by Function
August 2020 - July 2021

	Actual	Budget	over Budget
Income			
Member Dues	\$ 8,750	\$ 7,880	\$ 870
Direct Public Support	2,340	-	2,340
Art School Program	33,365	12,700	20,665
Rent & Investment Income	6,671	8,000	(1,329)
Merchandise & Other Income	1,289	-	1,289
Total Income	52,414	28,580	23,834
Expenses			
Program Costs	146,166	160,695	(14,529)
Management & General	58,144	33,300	24,844
Development Costs	13,325	11,900	1,425
Total Expenses	217,635	205,895	11,740
NET OPERATING INCOME	(165,221)	(177,315)	12,094
Net Art Fair Income	390,889	242,835	148,054
Other Expenses	84,464	50,067	34,397
NET INCOME	\$ 141,204	\$ 15,453	\$ 125,751

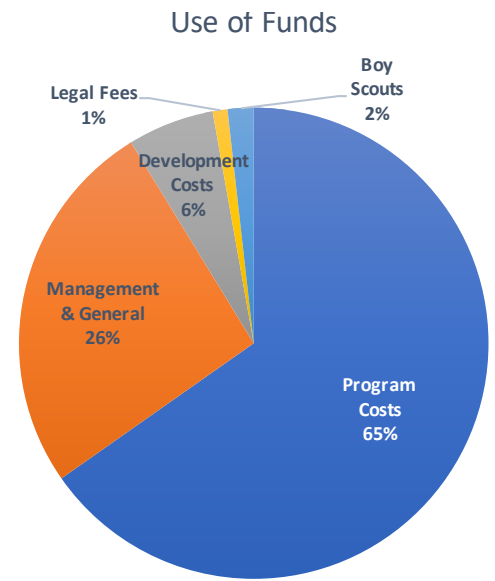
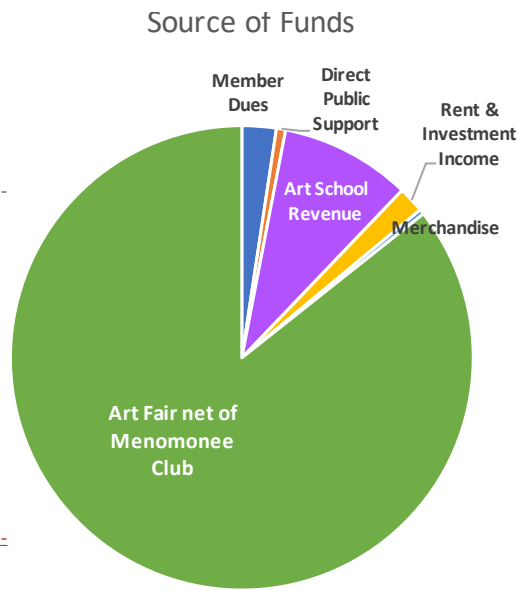
Continued on page 2

Year End Summary - Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2021

Expenses were significantly reduced during Covid. Fiscal year 2019 had \$264,508 in expenses. After Covid, expenses were trimmed to \$232,470 for 2020. In fiscal 2021 this was further reduced to \$217,635.

With Art Fair booth deposits, cash flow again turned positive in January. For the 17 prior months (from July 31, 2019 through December 31, 2020) \$274,519 of cash was consumed. At the lowest point cash was \$461,179, still a very strong financial position. As of July 31, 2021, cash was \$671,098.

The complete financial statements for fiscal 2021, along with a summary, description of the new chart of accounts structure and an analysis of budget variances by account are available on the OTTA website at : <https://www.oldtowntrian-gle.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/OTTA-2021-Financial-Statement-subject-to-audit.pdf>



COMMITTEE NEWS | Compiled by Jane Bachmann

ART FAIR COMMITTEE | Anne Giffels, Chairperson

Talk about a roller-coaster! We learned on May 5 (five weeks before the Fair) that the Mayor was going to allow large outdoor events, with restrictions on capacity and food service. The Art Fair Committee translated those restrictions into pre-registration for each hour, preparing banners with QR codes, and transforming the Artist Breakfast into pre-packaged grab-and-go. Our food vendor made contingency plans for packaged food and we all started watching the long-term weather forecasts. The Art Fair was suddenly big news in Chicago, and we appeared on all the television networks and radio stations. What great publicity for the Fair!

Our careful planning was turned upside-down on June 4 (a little more than one week before the Fair): capacity restrictions were lifted on June 11 (ONE day before the Fair). We scrambled to adjust the pre-registration and get the word out that EVERYONE was welcome. Then on Friday, June 11, we learned that the food restrictions would be lifted, which allowed our food vendors to serve our guests directly.

The 2021 Old Town Art Fair was record-shattering in so many ways. Who knew in February 2021, when we started this journey, that we would be able to enjoy a weekend with beautiful weather (despite a brief rain shower), welcoming artists and visitors back to Old Town? And the visitors did arrive! The 2021 Old Town Art Fair recorded the highest gate revenue in the 71-year history of the Art Fair. And while we do not collect revenue information from the artists, many of

them told us they experienced their best fair ever.

Not only was the weekend memorable, but we had a first-ever ribbon cutting event on Friday afternoon to open the Fair. We were honored to welcome US Representative Mike Quigley, Mayor Lori Lightfoot, State Senator Sara Feigenholtz and Alderman Michele Smith to celebrate the return of the Old Town Art Fair. Music was once again heard on the streets of Old Town, courtesy of Soulbillies, and Inspired Catering served up yummy food. We cheered the returning artists with an impromptu welcoming committee.

What a weekend! Artists started to sell pieces even before the official opening!! The Artist Breakfast was a huge success. The volunteers at the gates worked hard all weekend to scan-in the guests, racing back to the Triangle building to re-charge the scanners. The Girl Scouts distributed water and snacks to grateful artists. Despite long lines for food, everyone was smiling. Even the brief rain allowed everyone to catch their breath.

I close out this summary with an enormous THANK YOU to everyone who helped with a memorable Art Fair, and some words from one of the artists:

"I just wanted to drop a note and say how grateful I am to you all who made this year's Fair happen. I know you all worked extra hard, given the situation and I'm sure I'm not alone in saying your success has enabled a lot of artists to breathe a little easier. With the subsequent sales generated by the Fair on my website, this is officially the best show of my art fair career."

OTTA FUNDRAISER COMMITTEE | Kathy Clark, Chairperson and Eury Chrones, Co-Chairperson

What excitement comes after the 2021 Old Town Art Fair? The answer is the Old Town Triangle Association fundraiser and cocktail party, **Then and Now - Our Old Town**. Mark your calendars: **Friday, September 24th at The Chicago History Museum, 6 pm-10 pm**. This iconic event will celebrate our neighborhood's past and present "Then and Now", its residents, buildings and Art Fairs as well

as have access to view the current exhibit at the museum of world renown photographer, Vivian Maier: **In Color**. The museum outdoor renovations of the patio will add to our guests evening pleasure.

National-award-winning Blue Plate Catering, will provide an assortment of edibles surely to please everyone. There will be an open bar serving a variety of cocktails, beers, wines and soft drinks.

The evening wouldn't be complete without music and the excitement of the auctions and great raffle selections that always add to the fun.

[Click here](#) to register. Tickets are \$100 per person. Masks are required. Ticket purchasers are asked to email a copy or photo of their vaccination card to CDCCards@oldtowntriangle.com before the event.

PHOTO GALLERY

CHICAGO RE-OPENS WITH THE 71ST ANNUAL OLD TOWN ART FAIR!!

Contributing Photographers: Dorothy Buhle, Tommy Burek, Diane Fitzgerald, Viktor Gerasimovski, Alice Huff, Anderson Knapp, Ellison Knapp, Simon Meredith, Jeremy Punsiriruk, Burt Richmond, Sarah Spiro, Rome Thorstenson, Dirk Vos, Michael Warnick, Courtney Yoke, Donna Zarei, Payam Zarei



BYLAWS COMMITTEE | Chris Nelson, Chairperson

The Bylaws Committee continues to meet monthly to review and provide suggestions on improving our Bylaws and ensure they are in compliance with current laws governing non-profit corporations. The Committee's goal is to present suggested updates to the Bylaws by the November Board meeting, for approval. The Committee presented a suggested update to the Appendix A, which covers the Voting Procedures for elections, at the August 10th Board meeting. These procedures were ratified by the Board and will be sent to all members prior to the September Board meeting, in accordance with our current Bylaws. Additionally, per our current Bylaws, the voting procedures are to be affirmed by October 1st of each year.

The next meeting of the Bylaws Committee will be on Monday, August 23rd at 7pm at the OTTA Leslie Wolfe Gallery space. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Bylaws Committee at bylaws@oldtowntriangle.com.

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE |

Sachi Kubo, Chairperson

Thank you for donating to and supporting the National Night Out event hosted by our CPD 18th District CAPS Office on August 4th, at Navy Pier. The weather was beautiful, and we had great fun at the event. Some participating families saw the Navy Pier fireworks for the first time. If you could not participate or help this year, please join the event next year.

An OTTA member's idea to have safety flags at our busy 4-way crossings was shared in a recent Beat 1814 CAPS meeting with CAPS Officers and an attending staffer from Alderman Smith's office. When children cross a street, they take a flag stored in a cup holder on one side of the street and cross to the other side. If you have ideas like this, please let the OTTA office know. For CAPS Beat meetings schedule, please check OTTA Calendar – posted on the OTTA website and published in this newsletter.

EVENTS COMMITTEE | Carly Jenkins, Chairperson

We are excited to announce that our Events Committee is growing! We welcome our new and returning members: Eurydice Chrones, Kathy Clark, Caroline Crispino, Margaret Gallagher, Marianne Gotfredson, Carly Jenkins, Kristi Nihiser, Donna Zarei, and Payam Zarei. We are delighted to have everyone on board!

Our next OTTA Member Event will be our Fall Fest (also known as Oktoberfest) on October 16th, 4-8 pm. We will have food, beverages and live music! Kids' activities will be from 4-6 pm. There will be more communication closer to the Fall Fest and we look forward to celebrating with you all. Non-members are welcome to attend with members, and we encourage them to sign up and become OTTA members!

If you would like to join the committee or volunteer for any events, please email me, Carly Jenkins, at events@oldtowntriangle.com. Volunteers are always needed for the days leading up to the event and day of.

HISTORIC DISTRICT/PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE | Zac Bleicher, Chairperson

The HDPZ Committee continues to work towards the mission of preserving our district's historic character and promoting careful planning in and around the district. We also recently started in-person meetings again!

Our neighborhood continues to be one of the most photographed in Chicago, due to its architectural beauty. The OTTA has recently launched its own history photo page, which you can check out on Instagram at @oldtown-history. We'll continue to update the page with beautiful examples of our neighborhood's historic features and lovingly maintained homes, so be sure to follow the page for all the latest posts!

MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Darius Tandon, Chairperson

The OTTA thanks all of the individuals and households who continue to be members. There are many exciting events being planned for the coming year that in which members will be able to participate. These events also signal an opportunity to grow OTTA's membership. Most (if not all!) OTTA members know of Triangle residents who currently are not members. The Membership Committee would like to encourage all current members to help spread the word about the OTTA and commit to getting one new household to become a member. There have always been many great reasons to be an OTTA member and with more events on the horizon, this is the perfect time to become a member.

OLD TOWN ART FAIR VOLUNTEER THANK YOU PARTY

Payam Zarei, Chairperson

The OTAF Volunteer Thank You Party was held on July 16th: A tribute and THANK YOU for all the OTAF volunteers who were instrumental in making the 2021 Art Fair a huge success. We recognized many volunteers, including OTAF Past Presidents who were in attendance. We shared delicious food, drink and awesome dance music.



The organizers of the OTAF Volunteer Thank You Party, Payam & Donna Zarei (center and second from right), with volunteers/party-goers who danced the night away at this Fiesta-themed event.



The main entrance of the Triangle Center on July 16th.



Kathy Clark (l), co-chair of Then & Now – Our Old Town, with Michael Garzel (r), PR and marketing guru for the Old Town Art Fair, on the "block party dancefloor" with others.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

Old Town Triangle Alleys: An Alley Audit

By Colleen Christian with Diane Fitzgerald

As you're walking around the neighborhood this fall, here are some fun facts to keep in mind as you move between streets and cross the alleys!

In the heart of the Old Town Triangle lies 13 alleys. Without these thirteen alleys, our beautiful and peaceful Old Town would be a much different neighborhood. The same holds true for the neighborhoods and business districts lined with all 1,900 miles of alleys in Chicago.

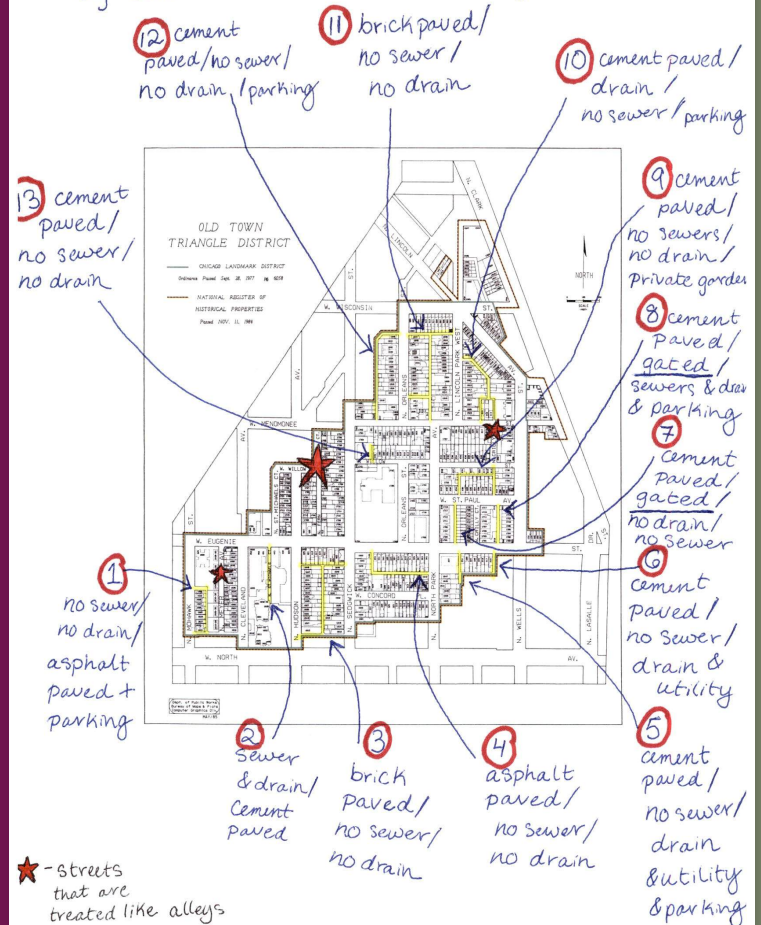
While many of us think the grid layout of Chicago was the result of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871, it was actually the National Land Ordinance of 1785, whereby the Federal Government dictated that all uncharted territories to the west of the Ohio River would be developed based on a grid system. Within the grid system, each square of land contained a township which would be further developed into city blocks and then individual properties. Surveyor James Thompson created the Thompson Plat which planned out the design of early Chicago. In his plan, there were eight blocks to a mile in one direction, 16 blocks to a mile in the other direction, and a 16-foot alley that ran through the middle of each block.

The inclusion of alleys in the City's design was a very practical solution to the chaos of urban life. These narrow, public ways do not have sidewalks nor sewers nor trees, and except for nine alleys in The Loop, they are all unnamed. Alleys were designed to provide a service lane for the daily, dirty activities — like removing manure from the horse stalls without having to carry it through the house or for delivering coal or for our current-day blue recycling and black trash cans — and to keep the streets cleaner, prettier, traffic-free...more civilized. It is widely acknowledged that Chicago's no-nonsense, no frills alleys keep the City much cleaner and more aesthetically pleasing, as compared to other cities. New York City comes to mind with its garbage-lined, foul-smelling, gridlocked streets!

So, the next time you pass by an alley, appreciate it for the sacrifices and services it provides for its sister streets — for the streets to remain beautiful and peaceful for all to enjoy.

ALLEY AUDIT

By: Colleen Christian with Diane Fitzgerald



<https://www.oldtowntriangle.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/OTTA-Landmark-District-Map.png>

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Mary Blust

A FAREWELL TO Mary Blust

By Diane Gonzalez

Old Town Triangle long-term neighbor Mary Blust died this past April. Mary, known for her infectious smile and far-reaching curiosity including all things French, was the wife of former OTTA President and Historic District/Planning & Zoning Chair, Larry Blust.

After growing up on Chicago's northwest side, Mary headed off to the University of Illinois, Champaign. There she met Larry in a business letter writing class. Larry recalled that Mary was the only woman in the class. Eventually they began dating. Mary was forced to drop-out due to illness, but she returned to her studies at the University of Cincinnati where she earned a PhD in Medieval History along with an MBA. Mary had two additional degrees in French, a BA and an MS. Following their wedding, Mary and Larry headed to Shreveport, Louisiana where Larry served three years in the Air Force. Mary taught at Southern University in Shreveport. Larry said that this is where they formed several long-term friendships

and learned to canoe.

After a return to Chicago's Rogers Park, Larry and Mary purchased their Old Town home in 1976. During these years, Mary worked for a series of banks, including LaSalle Bank where she served as lead financial analyst. Banks were merging, and Mary was determined to try her hand at education again. Mary began teaching as an adjunct history professor at various Chicago universities, including DePaul and Northwestern.

Mary liked being a student as well as a teacher. Although Mary taught history, she studied French. She was very involved with the Alliance Française and volunteered in a program that introduced disadvantaged students to the French language, along with other volunteer positions. She studied French at Middlebury College in Vermont and in her extensive international travels, took classes at a French language school in Belgium.

At the time of her death, Mary was preparing to enter a PhD program in French at University of Illinois, Champaign where she had studied years ago. She had completed a preparatory paper and obtained a campus apartment.

Mary cherished her OTTA friends, the Art Fair, and her Lincoln Avenue rowhouse. In turn, Old Town treasured her. Au revoir, Mary!



Green City Market is bringing Chef BBQ back on Thursday, September 9th — one of Chicago's most anticipated food events of the year. Chicago's top restaurants, brewers, winemakers, and mixologists provide tasting portions of locally inspired dishes and craft beverages highlighting ingredients from Green City Market's local, sustainable farmers. Your attendance benefits Green City Market's 501(c)(3) nonprofit mission to secure the future of food by deepening support for sustainable farmers, educating our community, and expanding access to locally grown food. Tickets include all food and beverage www.GreenCityMarket.org/ChefBBQ.



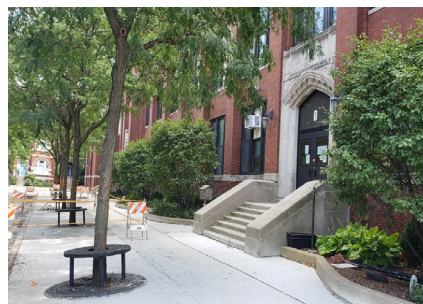
Join us at our annual benefit IT'S THE NEW ROARING '20s! on Tuesday, September 21st, 5:00-6:15pm via Zoom. Featuring a presentation of The Village Chicago Trailblazer Award to Chicago Innovation's: Tom Kuczmarski, Town Hall Apartments, and Ashton Applewhite, author and ageism activist - being honored for their outstanding achievement in changing the narrative on aging, embracing age diversity, and advancing the quality of life and well-being of older adults. Fabulous raffle prizes and auction items! Support the work of The Village through Fund-A-Need. Don't miss a performance by the renowned musical ensemble, Chicago Sinfonietta. NOTE: Online auction from September 14th – 20th. For information/RSVP, visit <https://thevillagechicago.org/annual-benefit> or call 773-248-8700.



SHOP AND SUPPORT THE LINCOLN PARK HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY - Looking for clothing? College planners? Business services? The Friends of LPHS's Directory of LPHS Businesses is up and running, featuring businesses owned by current LPHS families/staff, LPHS alumni, and incoming freshman families. Visit <https://www.folphs.org/> and support Lincoln Park High School families.



Abraham Lincoln Elementary School welcomes our new Assistant Principal, Dewitt Anthony Love, who joined us in May. Mr. Love is a native Chicagoan and grew up in Chicago's West Chatham neighborhood. He attended Lindblom Technical High School, then earned a degree in English at Morehouse College. Later he earned two Master's Degrees, one in Curriculum & Instruction and another in Educational Administration, both at Concordia University in River Forest. Mr. Love began his career with Chicago Public Schools as an elementary school Language Arts teacher. He transitioned to teach high school English at Al Raby High School and then Westinghouse College Prep High School. He also served as Assistant Principal at Brian Piccolo Elementary School, and most recently at William H. Taft IB World High School.



Abraham Lincoln Elementary has a beautiful new sidewalk just in time for the first day of school. Dr. Fay, Mr. Love, and faculty/staff welcome back students and families on August 30th. <http://www.lincolnelementary.org>



Are you looking to give back to your community? Lincoln Park Community Services (LPCS) empowers individuals facing homelessness and poverty to secure stable housing and make sustainable life changes. We are happy to have volunteers back on-site with COVID-19 precautions in place! Volunteer opportunities available! For more information, visit <https://www.lpcs-chicago.org/get-involved>.

Save-the-Date for our annual Taste of Fall event on Thursday, October 21st, 6:30-10:30 pm at Ovation Chicago, 2324 W. Fulton. Savor local food and drinks while supporting LPCS. For more details visit <https://www.lpcs-chicago.org/>.



Fall Into the Park with the Lincoln Park Conservancy! The Conservancy has lived its mission to preserve, protect and enhance the Park for over 37 years. Join us for three events at some of the Park's most treasured spaces—preserved and maintained

by the Conservancy. For more details and registration, visit <https://lincolnparkconservancy.org/events-tours/fall-into-the-park/>.



Celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire! The *City on Fire: Chicago 1871* exhibit opens on Friday, October 8th, the same day the Fire started in 1871. Explore the impact that the fire had on the city and its people. Engage with the events and conditions that led to devastation. Learn about recovery efforts that underscore the deep and lasting impact the fire had on Chicago's past and present. Featured in the exhibit are a large-scale reproduction of a cyclorama painting depicting the breadth of the fire's path across the city and historic heirlooms and cherished belongings damaged in the fire. For more information visit www.chicago1871.org.



Our 12-week Fall Session begins September 7th. We are excited to safely welcome families back to fun at the Club! Basketball, Judo, Fencing, Taekwondo, RetroActive Sports and Music Lessons are all back this fall for ages four and up. Questions? Email info@menomoneeclub.org or visit www.menomoneeclub.org.



This summer, LaSalle partnered with our sister school, LaSalle 2, in the Ukrainian Village, to offer in-person learning to over 100 students during the four-week program. Created with COVID relief funds, it features math and literacy fun lessons, and daily afternoon "camp"-themed games such as water play and tie dying.

For fall, we turn our sights to full in-person instruction with robust safety protocols. Our new Assistant Principal, Ms. Dashe Rowland, joining us from Walter Payton High School, is helping finalize our strategic plan for the 2021-2022 school year. Learn more about us at www.lasallechicago.com.



Children from LaSalle and sister school, LaSalle 2, have fun learning at summer school!



CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2021

SEPTEMBER

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
LABOR DAY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH
ART CLASSES BEGIN AT OTTA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 7 PM
BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 6 PM
CAPS MEETING, BEAT 1813
(WEST OF SEDGWICK)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 6 PM
CAPS MEETING, BEAT 1814
(EAST OF SEDGWICK)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21TH, 6:30 PM
HD/PZ COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 6 PM
THEN & NOW – OUR OLD TOWN

OCTOBER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH
150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GREAT CHICAGO FIRE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10TH
CHICAGO MARATHON

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, 2-5 PM
OPENING RECEPTION:
CAFFEINE 2021 -
CELEBRATING SURVIVAL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 7 PM
BOARD MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 4 PM
OKTOBERFEST

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 6:30 PM
HD/PZ COMMITTEE MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31ST
HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH, 2-4 PM
OPENING RECEPTION:
NORMAN BAUGHER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH, 7 PM
BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH, 6 PM
CAPS MEETING, BEAT 1813
(WEST OF SEDGWICK)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 6 PM
CAPS MEETING, BEAT 1814
(EAST OF SEDGWICK)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH
VETERANS DAY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH, 6:30 PM
HD/PZ COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH
THANKSGIVING DAY

DECEMBER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 7 PM
BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST, 6:30 PM
HD/PZ COMMITTEE MEETING



Wintrust Bank at 100 W. North Avenue today (photo by Diane Gonzalez)

HISTORY OF OLD TOWN

Wintrust Bank, 100 W. North Avenue

By Diane Gonzalez

Wintrust Bank sits at the intersection of Clark Street and North Avenue. Built in 1961 for North Federal Savings & Loan, in recent years the building housed Diamond Bank, and today it is Wintrust.

The structure is about 60 years old, but North Federal Savings & Loan's roots go back much further than this building, their third home. In 1886, a group of North Town businessmen (Old Town's previous name) organized a building and loan so that neighbors could purchase homes with loans. The organizers met on Tuesdays above Kemper's Hay & Feed store at North and Halsted. Each member put in from \$200 to \$2000. It is said that this was the City's first financial institution north of the Chicago River. It's loans helped transform the neighborhood from truck farms to city homes. During the Depression, North Federal remained open and its customers never lost a cent! During the urban renewal years of the 1960s, the bank provided numerous loans for neighbors' renovations and home purchases. Today, Wintrust serves its customers during the COVID crisis as North Federal must have during the 1918 influenza pandemic. Its survival illustrates Chicago history!

The building is a distinct, small work of Naess & Murphy Architects who are well-known for commissions including the Prudential Building (1955), the Jardine Water Filtration Plant (1952-1963), the Sun-Times building (1958, demolished in 2004), and O'Hare Airport's Master Plan (1956). Its cutting-edge design represented the change from earlier bank archi-

HIGHEST DIVIDENDS

CONSISTENT WITH

MAXIMUM SAFETY

MORTGAGE LOANS

Our many years of home financing service assures you of a modern home loan plan, exactly fitted to your needs. Reasonable interest rates. Easy repayment terms. No obligation for consulting us.

north federal savings
AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

100 W. North Avenue at Clark
Chicago 10, Illinois
MOhawk 4-4320

HOURS:
Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 9 to 5 / Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. / Closed Wednesday
2 Free Parking Lots North of Building
GERARD A. KOCH, President
MARY ANN HASS, Executive Vice President-Secretary
ESTABLISHED 1886

North Federal Savings Bank in the 1965 Old Town Art Fair program book

Continued on page 8



ESTABLISHED IN 1948

**AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER/ OCTOBER
2021**

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**CURRENT OFFICE /
GALLERY HOURS**

Monday - Friday | 10 am - 5 pm
Saturday | 10 am - 1 pm

OFFICERS

DOROTHY DeCARLO, PRESIDENT
CHRIS NELSON, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
ANNE GIFFELS, OTAF CHAIR & SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
DARIUS TANDON, SECRETARY
BRAD NEUMAN, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

Zac Bleicher
Elaine Frei
Carly Jenkins
Sachi Marie Kubo
Steve Nichols
Shannon Waterfield

OLD TOWN TRIANGLE CENTER

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The Old Town Triangle Association TIMES
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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").

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HISTORY OF OLD TOWN

texture where safety and security were paramount rather than openness. Passersby peer inside through the three-sided glass curtain wall; likewise, the interior is light and airy. It's different from the solid, somber banks of old. Built two-stories high with steel columns and polished aluminum mullions, this glass and steel box is inviting and simple. Situated across from the distinguished Chicago History Museum and next door to the massive Moody Temple, the contrast is eye-catching. The interior features an intriguing floating staircase, hovering mezzanine, and an elevator shaft resembling stacked coins.

From North Federal to Diamond to Wintrust, the institution has had several owners and names. But no matter who operates it, the bank represented the neighborhood's well-being. The current edifice's mid-century modern design shows focus on a welcoming open structure that neighbors know functions as a commerce site just as North Federal did 135 years ago atop a feed store!

Editor's Note: Because of banks like North Federal Savings & Loan, Diamond Bank and Wintrust Bank who have fostered our local economy, our Old Town neighborhood has enjoyed a long history of growth, stability and vitality. Maybe you saw the June, 24, 2021 postcard mailing from Wintrust? "We're Always Here For Old Town" it read!

LESLIE WOLFE GALLERY

September/October/November **Caffeine 2021 - Celebrating Survival**

The Artists Breakfast Group has been meeting for over fifteen years, serving as a support group for professional visual artists. There are no membership fees, meetings are drop-in, and the only cost is breakfast. They were able to create these original works during the unique and troublesome period of Covid. They want you to know, "We have not just survived, we are victorious!"

Exhibition: September 24 – October 22

Reception: Sunday, October 10, 2021, 2 PM – 5 PM.



George C Clark, Fire and Rain



William Whiteside, Split Cube



Sandra Holubow, Park View Dreams



Sandra Reibschied, Beachcomber

Coming in November – Norman Baugher – Solo Exhibit

Exhibition: October 22 – December 3

Reception: November 7, 2 PM – 4