



# Old Town Triangle Association Annual Members' Meeting & Election

**Date & Time:** Thursday, January 31, 2013 6:30 P.M.  
**Location:** 1763 N. North Park Avenue—OTTA North Room

The January 31, 2013 Annual Members' Meeting and Election was called to order by President Vi Daley, at 7:40 P.M. More than 100 association members were present.

**1:** Members were welcomed by President Vi Daley to the Annual Members' Meeting & Election. She informed the membership of the death of Bob Dowey, longtime photographer for the OTTA. President Daley also pointed out that the Art Fair video playing during the meeting was largely comprised of photography done by Bob. A memorial service is scheduled for February 17, 2013 at the Triangle Center from 2-5 P.M. She then thanked Sherri Kramer and her crew for organizing and setting up the evening's meeting/dinner themed 'Taste of the Triangle'. Sherri was ably assisted by Michel Warnick and Leslie Wolfe. The triangle restaurants featured for the dinner were: Adobo Grill, Catering Chocolate, Corcoran's, Delightful Pastries, Marge's Still, Stanley's, Rocco Ranalli's, Nookies, Twin Anchors, and Treasure Island

**2:** President Daley then introduced the current board members and asked them to stand as they were named: Jeff Smith, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Karen Pfendler, Secretary, Claire Leaman, Treasurer, John Knoche, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP & Art Fair Chair, Director David Pfendler, Director Kim Hitchcock, Director Rick Hyer, Director Alan Lougee, Director Rob Gibbs, and Director Lance Hornaday. The membership warmly thanked these board members for their time and service on behalf of the OTTA.

**3:** President Daley then provided membership with a recap of accomplishments for 2012: A very successful Art Fair under the leadership of Debbie Day & John Knoche; achieved a balanced budget; neighborhood meetings regarding safety issues; active and critically important participation in the Court Advocacy Program; tree pruning; secured treatment for all the Triangle Ash trees underwritten by the Dept. of Forestry; brick pavers were replaced in the neighborhoods; Corinne Svoboda was able to save/acquire over 2000 Chicago red brick pavers from the Moody Church sidewalk project that are now being stored in the garage of The New Leaf (these bricks will now be available for our brick replacement program); we scheduled a neighborhood cleanup and plantings in the pocket parks; repaired the trellis and brick walls in the Clark/Wisconsin Park which were damaged in the severe wind storm we suffered in the fall; membership was increased; we held 2 Music in the Park events; had a fun Anything But Turkey Pot Luck; we up-dated parts of our By-Laws; we began posting info from our archives inside the center for people to enjoy; the HDPZ committee met to hear presentations regarding historic district rehabbing projects; a number of building improvements were made: purchased a new refrigerator: installed state of the art heating/ac units: new valves installed on all the radiators: replaced Hot water piping: new urinals in men's lavatory: new faucets in both bathrooms: and a new sink installed in the kitchen; 10 great art exhibits: did a homemade pizza fundraiser raising \$245: Old Town was rated the Hottest Neighborhood in the country: the Realtor Magazine for their January/February 2013 edition states "the most searched US city by non-US customers lists Chicago as #1!!!: lastly, a wonderful newsletter produced by an all-volunteer group headed by Editor Diane Fitzgerald.

**4:** Diane Fitzgerald remarked how vital our newsletter is to our community. She asked for volunteers who enjoy interviewing, writing, or wish to contribute ideas for content to join their team. The newsletter is modeled after the Old Town Art Fair. It is a committee that has volunteers, guest writers, about 6 people intimately involved in collecting data, writing articles, and a young, talented graphic artist who puts it all together. The theme for the upcoming issue is “movies”. Deborah Chapman is the committee’s roving photographer; Sherri Kramer is an adjunct member of the committee who organized this year’s Annual Members’ Meeting and is also responsible for managing OTTA’s Facebook page on the internet. Diane encouraged the membership to get involved with helping to produce the OTTA Newsletter.

**5:** John Knoche reported on the progress of the Art Fair thus far. John encouraged members to sign up to volunteer to serve in some capacity on the Art Fair Committee. A sign-up sheet would be available for members to add their names to. The slide John provided was a visual explaining how John sees the Art Fair:



- A. **Revenue:** there are 5 revenue sources; 1) artists fast approaching the number 1 revenue source. The application fee was raised to \$35; the fee to exhibit was raised to \$550. The number of exhibiting artists was reduced from 266 to 250. 2) Food & Beverage—in the process of negotiating a 3 year contract with Stefani’s for all the food & beverages. Stefani’s will also support us with PR. 3) Friends of the Fair. 4) FSFN (First Sight Friday Night) will now be held at the Germania Club. 5) Patrons-will be instituting the ‘Patrons Pick Prize’—folks who make a gate donation will be given a ticket to place in a box the artists have been given to vote for their favorite artist in the fair...there will be a drawing & several prizes awarded to the persons who might have voted for the winning artist.
- B. **Promotion:** 1) email ads; 2) Face-to-face selling our event; 3) Mailing: sense of obligation; 4) Mailing, party, fun; PR=JK/DD/RJKG.
- C. **Public Relations, Advertising, Sponsorship consisting of:** Listings-Ads, XRT, Treasure Island, Stefani’s, Posters, Patron’s Pick Prize, Gate Design, Corona, Wells Street presence and many more ideas courtesy RJKG. More effort will be put into PR this time around. The committee has already placed a poster on the Brown Line El to see how it looks...it looks good! R. Gibbs has secured multiple billboards on the El platforms featuring the OTAF...we got there ahead of the Wells Street group this year.
- D. **Execution:** Game day in the triangle, gates, counting, booth sitting, Artist Breakfast, Towing, Traffic, Security, Equipment, etc.
- E. **Fun:** Music, Poster, Children’s Corner, Garden Walk, Thank-You Party. John then unveiled the 2013 Art Fair Poster.

**6:** Corinne Svoboda, member of the Nominating Committee, read the names of the candidates selected by the Nominating Committee for 2013 Board Officers: President, Vi Daley: Vice President: Jeffrey Smith, Secretary: Karen Pfendler, Treasurer: Claire Leaman, and 2 Directors: David Pfendler & Anne Giffels.

**7:** OTTA Secretary, Karen Pfendler informed membership that no other petitions for candidacy had been submitted—therefore, by a voice vote, members elected the slate as presented by the Nominating Committee—the vote is to be considered ‘unanimous consent’ as there were no dissenting voices.

**8:** President Daley thanked Leslie Wolfe for all her hard work throughout the years....she thanked everyone for coming...again, President Daley thanked Sherri Kramer for all her hard work in organizing our dinner...she informed the membership that this year is the OTTA’s 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and asked if anyone had any ideas for how we could celebrate this important milestone to get in touch with her. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Pfendler, Secretary OTTA



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