

President's Message

A publication about your community

Spotlight

Welcome to our final newsletter of 2007. It has been another successful year for Lincoln Central Association. Even though the year is almost over, we still have work to do as an association.

December is always the month for **election of our future Board of Directors**. As I write this, we are actively seeking individuals who are willing to serve the Association for a two-year term.

Retiring board members have done great things for Lincoln Central: they created and staffed a zoning committee that reports to the board; created this bi-annual newsletter; mounted festive fundraisers; publicized and held community meetings on zoning, planning and construction issues.

LCA is at a crossroad. Zoning issues consumed a great deal of Board energy in the past few years. We are now amply set up to handle **zoning changes and zoning requests made within LCA**. With the downturn of housing starts within our boundaries, and settlement of a zoning case concerning blocks within LCA, we have time and energy to take on different issues. But we need help: many Board positions turn over this year. We need individuals interested in working on beautification, safety, social events and other issues within LCA. That list can be as long and open as we would like it to be. Lincoln Central is the voice of the neighborhood, so what the neighborhood wants to work on is what LCA will work on.

We also have more work to do on communicating to our neighborhood. Board member **Evan Reiffel** has been our **volunteer web master** and has been doing a fantastic job. I hope you have been taking the time to log on to our revised website and see the changes we have made. But a website is not enough. We always need more of our neighborhood to access the information available on the website as well as sign up for our broadcast e-mail list. Our goal has been to send broadcast e-mails to our membership and friends on issues that affect all of us within the neighborhood. If you have not already done so, please sign up for both the broadcast e-mail as well as the web page. Go to www.lincolncentral.org.

Our fundraising project for the year has been to support the efforts to upgrade the firehouse facilities at Armitage and Larrabee. As the last firehouse to upgrade their kitchen and common area, this project is a great way for our neighborhood to show our support and gratitude to the firemen and firewomen who protect us 24/7. The project includes a new kitchen with new cabinets and appliances, new furniture and new cooking utensils. The goal for the project is \$25,000 and as I write this, half the amount has been collected. On November 15th, a community fundraising event will be held at Kinkaid's on Lincoln Avenue from 7 pm to 10 pm. I am optimistic that at the end of that evening, the goal for the Firehouse will have been reached.

I hope you can join us at our **annual membership meeting on December 13th at 7 pm**. The location will be announced on our web page. Thank you for your support of Lincoln Central Association and your support of our neighborhood.

Richard Rausch
President



Engine 22 Restoration Project

Your Support is Needed for our Lincoln Park Firehouse: Engine 22 Restoration Project

Engine 22 Hazmat 511 Ambulance 43

We need your community support to **help with the restoration of and improvement of the living/working conditions of the firefighters and Paramedics** at the Engine Company 22 at Armitage and Larrabee. The House was built in 1971 and there have not been any upgrades of the kitchen or living facilities for 36 years. Alderman Vi Daley has secured state dollars to help cover some of the major costs, but this money is limited. We need community participation through donations for additional costs of appliances, tables, chairs, pots, pans, etc.

We now have the opportunity to give back to the men and women who give us so much. Not only does our local fire department serve and protect our community in case of fire, accidents, hazardous materials, terrorism, and prevention, they have been very gracious as a community partner and neighbor. They attend the local block parties/gatherings; they are always willing to give the neighborhood children, adults and guests tours of the facility and the rigs at a moment's notice; and our dogs know there is a friendly pat and a treat on their walks. They have also participated in local charities such as the Ronald McDonald House, Adams Park and Misericordia Hospital with their time and facility to help raise money. It is truly a wonderful and comforting partnership to have our neighborhood firehouse as a part of our community. Now it is our turn to be there for them.

Please give a donation to upgrade their living conditions at the firehouse. You can write a check payable to **Engine 22 Restoration Project** and mail to: Lincoln Central Association, PO Box 14306, Chicago IL 60614-0306, or drop it off at Chase Bank, 935 W. Armitage. Please contact **Joy Arager** at (312) 640-0169 for additional information.

** Engine 22 Restoration Project is a neighborhood non-profit organization, and not associated with the CFD or the City of Chicago.*





New Community Forums Open on LCA Website

Lincoln Central Association announces the opening of the **new Community Forums section of the LCA website**. We hope that this resource becomes an on-line hub for neighborhood activities and creates a place for dialogue on issues affecting Lincoln Central and surrounding communities. LCA encourages all interested neighbors, businesses and other organizations to join in. Membership in LCA is not required.

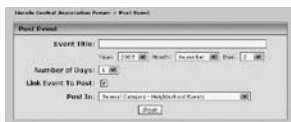
To participate, register and log in to LCA's new forums in the Community section at www.lincolncentral.org. Guests are free to browse.

Members can:

- Post and reply to messages (There's a spellcheck and message preview)
- E-mail topics to friends and contacts
- Attach support files (subject to limitations)
- Create polls
- Link to include on-line videos from services such as YouTube
- Post photos and comments
- Post events on the community calendar
- Search the site
- Play games and record scores (go to Arcade)

Features include:

- RSS Newsfeeds let users add individual forums to their Newsreader or home page for notification of new posts
- Tags tab allows users to tag their messages with important keywords
- Popular tags are listed for easy access to associated "hot" topics
- Links tab allows members to link to their favorite websites and provide ratings
- Quick bookmarks let users add topics to their Social Bookmark sharing sites such as Del.icio.us, Digg, Facebook, Stumble Upon, Reddit and Slashdot



The site has integrated Ad Management with statistics. Advertisers are being sought. Rates (for both the website and this Newsletter) will be announced soon.

This website is a moderated community: Any and all content and privileges may be removed without notice or limits modified at the discretion of the LCA.

Green Chicago

Wind mills on top of the Sears Tower? A green roof for the Merchandise Mart? Recently, these were among Mayor Daley's suggested ways to make our great city more green. Within Lincoln Central, we have simple, inexpensive ways to help create the greenest city.



- Keep backyards open, and at grade. Ald. Vi Daley has introduced a citywide backyard ordinance but we as a community can agree to do more. Even if zoning allows a raised rear yard, we urge builders and homeowners to keep rear yards free of structures. Arable land soaks up rain water and provides space for mature trees and other year-round, in-the-ground greenery. When rain water overwhelms the city's water system, raw sewage is released into Lake Michigan.
- Plant your parkway. Evergreens, for example, offer year-round benefits to the air.
- Replace parkway trees damaged or destroyed by construction. Builders and homeowners should replace those lost trees; they're not required to by the city. Maintaining the look of our lovely tree-lined streets is the right thing to do for the community and for the environment.



Trees clean the air and provide oxygen; our urban tree canopy also helps regulate temperatures

in summer and winter by shading buildings and blocking wind, according to the U.S. Forest Service. But we lag behind other cities, at 11 percent canopy cover. New York has a 24 percent canopy cover (with 5.2 million trees). Atlanta's is 37 percent.



Community Meetings

During 2007, LCA held community meetings for these properties:

1925 N. Halsted St.

LCA supported a zoning change from residential to commercial. The building is a former twine factory. Properties just to the north (the former Infant Welfare site) had been rezoned for commercial use. The buyer is to house a print gallery on the second floor and offer retail space on the first floor (no restaurant or bars; the buyer would seek “quiet” retail, as his business would be housed in the same building). No change would be made to the building’s exterior (i.e., teardown and new construction) except for the facade, which would be remade in glass and stone. LCA thought the proposed reuse of the building appropriate for the site and the street, and minimally disruptive.

1955 N. Halsted St.

LCA supported a zoning change from residential to commercial. Applicant plans to build two-story 5,000 square foot commercial property. LCA thought it an appropriate reuse of the site, which sits beside and opposite commercial parcels.

2117 N. Halsted St.

LCA supported an application for a zoning change from residential to commercial (B3-2), which is consistent with commercial properties that line the Armitage-Halsted district. An earlier application requested B3-3 zoning, which LCA did not support. Applicant’s plans call for a three-story glass and brick structure. First floor would be commercial; upper floors would be three townhome-like residences.

1713 N. Burling St.

LCA did not support an application for a breezeway connecting a house to its garage. LCA does not support any structures in rear yards, as they block light, air, and arable land. No community hearing was held as LCA did not support the application.

LCA’s Zoning and Planning Committee

LCA’s zoning and planning committee was formed in 2003 to ensure an open and fair process for developers and homeowners. We are committed to the conservation of historic buildings, as they contribute to the uniqueness and desirability of our neighborhoods. Builders are urged to preserve facades and/or entire buildings. We look favorably on projects that are comparable in quality, scale, and design with the historic homes and commercial buildings that make up our distinctive streetscapes. We strongly recommend space for mature trees and other greenery in the front and rear of homes. We oppose walled-in breezeways and other elements which adversely affect light, views and access. Beautification has long been a stated part of Lincoln Central’s mission.

We are a volunteer group of residents, approved by the LCA board. Our decisions are presented to the board, which approves them or asks us to reconsider, get more information, hold a community meeting, etc. Recommendations to the Alderman come from the LCA board.

LCA’s zoning and planning committee meets monthly, the third Tuesday of the month, at 6 p.m., at Lincoln Park High School. Go to www.lincolncentral.org for exact dates. Meetings are open to the public. If you’re interested in joining LCA’s zoning committee, please come to a meeting.

About Lincoln Central

Lincoln Central Association (LCA) is a charitable organization begun in 1959, dedicated to improving the Chicago neighborhood bounded by Lincoln Avenue, the former Ogden Avenue, North Avenue, and Halsted Street. It was founded to unite people within the neighborhood, to build and maintain a secure and stable family neighborhood, to improve the physical and social condition of the community, and to undertake programs to foster accomplishment of those goals.

LCA's board raises money to maintain and enhance parks, playgrounds, and parkways. Small grants also go to support certain charitable groups or events in the neighborhood.

Ald. Vi Daley (43rd Ward) looks to LCA for recommendations on issues of noise, density, signage, parking, requests for liquor licenses and sidewalk dining, zoning, historic properties, affordable housing and large-scale developments. LCA is frequently asked to support or gain feedback from members on projects or changes in adjoining neighborhoods, such as Old Town Triangle Assoc., Mid-North Assoc., Ranch Triangle Assoc. and others. We often call community meetings or canvas members via e-mail before making a recommendation to other groups or Ald. Daley.

Our meetings are open to the public. Go to www.lincolncentral.org for details.

LCA members receive this newsletter and e-mail alerts about community meetings, neighborhood issues or ward news. Join us: become a member today.

Spotlight Quiz
[Answer]

[ANSWER TO LAST ISSUE'S QUIZ]

Where in LCA's world can you find this architectural detail?

(Answer: 1941 N. Mohawk Street)



Join us!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Type

- Family (2 Members) \$25.00
- Individual (1 Member) \$20.00
- Organization (1 Member) \$25.00
- Senior (1 Member) \$10.00

Contribution

- (includes membership)
- Patron \$50.00
 - Benefactor \$100.00

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip+4 _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

e-mail address _____

Please indicate your interests.

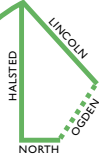
- Membership
- Newsletter/Public Relations
- Planning/Zoning
- Beautification/City Services
- Parking
- Fund Raising
- Safety/Security
- Community Relations
- Finance
- Parks
- Social Programs
- Schools

Send this completed Application, with your check, made payable to **Lincoln Central Association** to:

Membership Chair
Lincoln Central Assn.
P.O. Box 14306
Chicago, IL
60614-0306

Voice Mail
(312) 409-2783

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central



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