

A Message From the GCN President

Dear Gold Coast Neighbors,

Spring has definitely sprung in our Gold Coast neighborhood; with flowers blooming and everyone back outdoors to enjoy our City after one of the mildest winters we can remember. As the April showers and street cleaners refresh our public spaces, the Gold Coast is again at its sparkling best!

Gold Coast Neighbors' mission is to build a sense of community and enhance our quality of life by:

- Advocacy on behalf of our members
- Serve as a forum for community issues and historical education
- Promote safety, preservation and beautification
- Foster friendship among our neighbors

We regularly work with our City of Chicago aldermen on behalf of the Gold Coast Neighborhood. Along with the 43rd Ward (Alderman Michele Smith), we will adjust to the recent Aldermanic redistricting to reduce the area in the Gold Coast in the 42nd Ward (Alderman Brendan Reilly). These changes will add another ward in our neighborhood, the 2nd Ward (Alderman Bob Fioretti). It will thus be triply important for Gold Coast Neighbors to actively work with all three aldermen on issues of neighborhood concern as the new ward map is phased in over the next few years.

The Gold Coast Neighborhood is a gateway to the lakefront for many Chicagoans. We consult with the aldermen and police to be prepared for the annual return of summer beachgoers so our neighborhood is kept safe and pristine. We will be reviewing a police readiness plan to ensure that adequate planning is in place to avoid unsafe and uncivil behavior by visitors to the neighborhood.

The Wooden Alley refurbishment north of Burton Street has been a long-term project of Gold Coast Neighbors Association to both improve the alley and to preserve our historical heritage. We are pleased that new signage has been installed on both the Astor Street side and State Parkway side of the Wooden Alley following its renovation in 2011. Thanks to all who helped this project along, including former Alderman Vi Daley.

This September the south end of Lincoln Park will be graced by a number of new sculptures. The Chicago Park District is the sponsor of Chicago Sculpture International Outdoor Exhibition, a juried public art exhibition to enrich the community by bringing art into Chicago's parks while supporting professional artists. Our neighboring Lincoln Park (south of the LaSalle Drive extension) will be host to nearly a dozen of the works that will be displayed in parks in the downtown lakefront area.

Finally, I invite you to join us for an evening of friendship at the Gold Coast Neighbors Association Spring Event "Cocktails in the Coast". Visit with your neighbors, enjoy the refreshments and hors d'oeuvres and support our organization. We encourage you to chat with us that evening or as issues arise that need our attention. We are volunteers here to serve you, the neighbors of the Gold Coast!

With best regards,

Vern Broders

President
Gold Coast Neighbors Association



Immediate Past President Tom Thilman (left) and current GCN President Vern Broders

Gold Coast Neighbors Association



www.goldcoastneighbors.org

Spring 2012

Cocktails in the Coast, May 17th

Come celebrate Spring in fine Gold Coast Neighbors fashion by attending the "Cocktails in the Coast" event on Thursday, May 17th, 2012 at the Fortnightly of Chicago at 120 East Bellevue Place. The fun begins at 6 p.m. and lasts until 9 p.m. and will feature live entertainment and a raffle for an "Instant Wine Cellar."

The event's live auction will feature a stay at a beautiful home in Telluride, Colorado and several weekend getaways right here in Chicago.

Proceeds from the event have been dedicated to the beautification of Goudy Park.

Event tickets are \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members.

For more information or sponsorship opportunities, please call Kim Klein at 312.332.6122 or email her at:

info@goldcoastneighbors.org

Former Events

The Gold Coast Neighbors have been gathering in the Spring at historic venues in our area since 1996. For many years, "Echoes" was our annual Spring benefit where neighbors and friends came together to learn more about our heritage, visit with our Aldermen, exchange ideas on current issues impacting the neighborhood and to raise funds that support our mission. We are proud to continue the tradition with a twist and hope to see you at "Cocktails in the Coast."



Please visit
www.goldcoastneighbors.org
for all
"Cocktails in the Coast" details

Inside the Spring 2012 Edition: ... Remembering Bill Staples, EOA Save the Date, Gold Coast News Nuggets, Board of Directors List and Important Contact Info (Page 2)... Chicago Architecture Foundation Tours and Membership Form (Page 3)... President's Message (Back Page)

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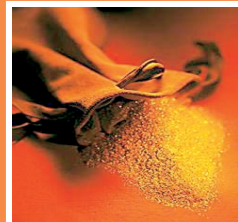
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Kim Klein

Saying Goodbye to a True Neighbor, Bill Staples

With the passing of our own Bill Staples in February, we remember him with great fondness. He served our neighborhood through active involvement as a member of the GCN Board with 27 years of service and the past presidency, as well as active support and involvement in the Near North Preservation Coalition, the Green Lake Conservancy Foundation, the 1540 Lake Shore Drive Co-Op, and



Columbia College's Museum of Contemporary Photography. In the Spring of 2011, the GCN elected Bill to Emeritus status, as he had earned his very honorable retirement from full board service. Bill worked tirelessly each year on planning and coordinating the Gold Coast Neighbors Association's largest yearly fundraising event, "Evening on Astor – the World's Most Elegant Block Party", and last year the organization dedicated the event to him in recognition of his support. Bill Staples' passion and service to the Gold Coast Neighbors Association will be unmatched and our neighborhood won't be the same without him.



Gold Coast News Nuggets

EOA Save the Date: With the great spring weather here, it's hard to believe we are starting to plan our signature Fall neighborhood event, our 30th Anniversary Evening on Astor – The World's Most Elegant Block Party! Mark your calendars for our EOA event, come rain or shine, on Wednesday, September 5th, on Astor Street between Goethe and Banks. For our 30th anniversary event we are planning a great kids' area, looking at offering a change in our food menu and coming up with creative ways to award prizes for table themes/decorations - including how you honor our 30th Anniversary! Tickets go on sale soon via our website; www.goldcoastneighbors.org.

Alderman Smith Commits \$200,000 of Menu Money to Upgrade Goudy Park: In a letter dated March 15, 2012 to City of Chicago Department of Transportation Commissioner Gabe Klein and Beth O'Reilly of the Office of Management and Budget, 43rd Ward Alderman Michele Smith committed \$200,000 from the 2011 Aldermanic menu to upgrade Goudy Park in Chicago's Gold Coast neighborhood. The letter states, "In fulfillment of a commitment I made in 2011, I am requesting that \$200,000 of my aldermanic menu be transferred to the Chicago Park District for the reconstruction of Goudy Park, located at Astor and Schiller. This is co-operative effort among the Park District, the local neighbors and myself in which each entity has committed 1/3 of the cost of reconstruction."

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Other Key Contacts
Alderman Michele Smith
2523 N. Halsted St.
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773-348-9500
yourvoice@.org
www.ward43.org

Alderman Brendan Reilly
325 W Huron St, Suite 510
Chicago, IL 60654
312-642-4242
office@ward42chicago.com
www.ward42chicago.com

Spring Tours with the Chicago Architecture Foundation

The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF), the largest and most diverse architecture tour program in the world, offers more than 85 boat, bus, bike, walking, "L" Train and Segway tours. The River Cruise, voted Chicago's #1 river tour, is back on the water after a winter in dry dock. Everyone's favorite neighborhood walking tours - the **Gold Coast: Astor Street** and **Gold Coast: Dearborn Street** tours - start again in late spring.



The **Gold Coast: Astor Street** tour is a 90 minute walk along the charming, historic street that features examples of Romanesque, Queen Anne, Tudor, Art Deco and Modern styles of residential architecture, along with stories of Chicago's early business and social leaders.

The **Gold Coast: Dearborn Street** tour, another delightful 90 minute stroll, tells the story of Chicago's German business and social leaders. The tour features a former mayor's home, a Gothic-style church, an early apartment building, and ends with the historic Three Arts Club.

For more information about these excellent tours of the Gold Coast, please visit: www.architecture.org

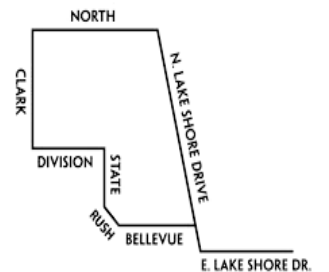
MEMBERSHIP FORM – PLEASE PRINT

All dues paying members receive a \$20 ChicagoLimosineService.com certificate toward your \$65 airport ride or a \$10 Mario's Ristorante gift certificate, 30% off room rates at Hotel Indigo or At Your Service Dry Cleaning, or 25% off at Spa at the Gold Coast. Please also consider a donation for our General Fund! Kindly send this form along with your tax deductible check or charge card authorization to:

Gold Coast Neighbors (or GCN) • 216 W. Jackson Blvd. #625 • Chicago, Illinois 60606

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Card #: _____
Expiration Date: _____ (month) _____ (year)

Membership Categories:
Neighbor, Building Association,
and Associate (for those outside
GCN's boundaries)
Annual Dues: \$ _____
All categories are \$50 per year
(New option: 3-year renewal for \$120)



Signature: _____
General Fund: \$ _____
Total: \$ _____

I would like to volunteer for the following Committee(s): please indicate your choice(s)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Goudy Parkways | <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Ghouly Halloween | <input type="checkbox"/> Police & Streets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws | <input type="checkbox"/> History/Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/PR | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evening on Astor | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning |

Please visit our website:
www.goldcoastneighbors.org
**for more information about
our committees and the work
they do.**

Questions? Please call GCN office at 312.332.6122. Please share your comments & suggestions _____