



Rosedale Park News

Serving a Friendly Neighborhood

Volume LXXV

Rosedale Park • Detroit, Michigan 48223

March 2010 • Number 2

The 2010 Rosedale Park Annual Banquet - Great as Usual!

By Nancy Bitzarakis

Smooth Start

Up on the stage and in the background, the soft sounds of jazz and Motown played as the 2010 Rosedale Park Improvement Association Banquet commenced. A very cold night did not deter more than 60 people from coming out to enjoy our annual year end celebration and, when you have that many people in one room, you have a party!

The evening started as we walked around drinking punch and talking to our neighbors that we only see as we drive by or talk to occasionally on the phone. The year end Banquet is always an opportunity to just relax and enjoy each others company, face-to-face.

Up on stage left, Chris and Ruth Remus set up a screen and projector and treated all Banquet attendees to a repeating photo show of all the pictures Chris took at our 2009 RPIA events as the



Board Member in charge of events). This added a personal- community touch to the evening. In the near future, all residents will be able to see those pictures and others on the RPIA Website that is currently in development.

Delicious Food and Special Guests

Dinner started on time catered again this year by Jackson Five Star Catering of Detroit. Before the meal, President Debbie Gore asked Mr. Glynn McKnight, of the RPIA Board, to give the invocation. This was the third year that Mr. McKnight gave the invocation at our Banquet, and he reminded us this evening that

as we eat this wonderful meal, we do so being also mindful of the hardships others are facing especially the people in Haiti who are living through a very difficult time. All in attendance readily replied, "Amen".

Several City Officials and their Guests were also in Attendance. Council President Charles Pugh came

(Continued on page 8)

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 9th, 7 p.m.

North Rosedale Park Community House
18445 Scarsdale, off Bretton Drive at Glastonbury

All Residents Welcome!

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President's Message

Greetings Neighbors:

When we ended the prior fiscal year, the events that occurred gave us high hopes that this year will exceed expectations. We are looking to provide events and services that will meet your needs, as well as maintain our standard of living environment. Remember our motto: "City living is best in Rosedale Park".

To do this we will all need to pull together as one united community. There are several challenges facing us, vacant homes maintenance, crime, foreclosures to name a few items. In addition, we are experiencing a decline in operating capital for the association due to the decline in the number of residents paying their dues. Yet, we remain optimistic that we can improve in these areas. Several initiatives have and will occur that will target addressing the above areas. Your help when those initiatives are launched, as an R.P.I.A. community resident, will be needed in order for things to improve. I look forward to working with you on these endeavors.

A few things to look for in the coming months:

- The March General Membership Meeting
- The R.P.I.A. Website Launch
- Dues Payment Request

Please actively participate and respond to these community initiatives.

Regarding Paid Security Patrols

As stated in the dues letter, mailed to every home in November, if sufficient funds were not received to cover the contract amount for the entire year, we would not reactivate the paid security patrol contract. I am sorry to say that based on the current inflow of security assessment payments, it does not appear that the contract will be renewed. The final decision will occur in March after the second dues/security payment request is mailed and the resulting payments tallied. I can only say that it is in your hands whether we increase the level of security patrols for the community. Your voice will be heard by the receipt of your assessments. This does not mean that we will not continue to look for and take advantage of any available programs that will address the issue of crime within our community. We are ever looking for public programs we can engage in to address this issue. However, ultimately it is your active participation in the abatement of crime that will curtail and/or eliminate it from our community.

Changing of the Seasons

It is hard to believe that spring will soon be upon us. As you start making your list of things to do to spruce up your homes and surrounding landscape, keep in mind that we are a designated historical district. This means that there are restrictions on the types of changes that you are permitted to make to your dwelling. Check first to see what you are and are not permitted to change and what permits are required. We don't want anyone to invest capital and time on a project, only to be stopped because it does not fit within the restrictions of maintaining the historical nature of the premise.

Challenge for the Start of R.P.I.A.'s New Year

If you reside in a home in Rosedale Park, ask yourself, what is at least one thing I can do to help improve the community? Once you have decided what that activity will be, act on it!

Debbie

Rosedale Park News Advertising Rates

Did you know that ads in the *Rosedale Park News* reach over 800 households in and around Rosedale Park for a very reasonable cost?

Ad Type	Cost/month [†]
Personal classified*	Free for RPIA members!
Business card	\$24 [†]
Quarter page	\$60 [†]
Half page	\$120 [†]

[†] An additional, one-time setup fee will be charged for all new ads and revisions to existing ads. Fee varies according to complexity of setup. Copy for new and revised ads is due no later than the 1st of the month prior to month of publication.

* For individuals and young people only—not for adult-owned businesses; must be text only and 50 words or fewer.

For more information or to place an ad, please contact Rosedale Park News advertising coordinator Darryl Brown at 313-574-0410. If you prefer, you can send an email to Darryl at advertiserpia@aol.com.

About the Census - You Count!

This information is taken from the US Census 2010 Committee mailing. Their goal is to get all residents of the City of Detroit and the state of Michigan to fill out their Census Form which will be mailed to our addresses in March 2010.

Why is it important to count everyone living in the U.S.?

First, the Constitution requires this to be done every 10 years and 2010 is our year. Every person counted earns funding and resources for their community. This funding depends on the numbers we turn in. A complete count helps business based on the number and



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

diversity of people living in an area. Thus, a complete count gives the US government an accurate picture of our communities and what it is that we need. Over the next ten years until the next Census an accurate count can mean trillions of dollars for our State and communities.

Should undocumented immigrants fear being counted?

No! The questionnaire just counts people. It does not ask about immigration status nor for any identifying information such as social security numbers. Further, Census Bureau employees face severe penalties (\$250K) and prison for disclosing anything from the Census forms. The bonus: filling out and returning your form promptly ensures that census workers need not come to your home and knock on your door! (They may come up to 6 times to try and collect information.)

Many mistakenly believe that the Census isn't meant to include or affect them.

The Census counts everyone in the United States. You need to help your community, City and State. An accurate count helps government agencies and businesses understand the full cultural and language diversity of our community and provide appropriate services from stores, emergency services, senior services, roads, hospitals, parks to mention a few.

So, in **March 2010**, fill out your simple 10 question Census 2010 right away and mail it in right away and let's get on with the business of making our City and State and community all that we can be!

Rosedale Park News

Serving a Friendly Neighborhood
U.S.P.S. 077-610

The official publication of the Rosedale Park Improvement Association (RPIA) is published monthly, except for a combined July/August issue, by RPIA at 14950 Stahelin, Detroit, MI 48223.

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR RPIA RESIDENTS FOR 2010

Bulk Trash Pick-Up							
<i>North of Fenkell</i>				<i>South of Fenkell</i>			
Feb.	May	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May	Aug.	Nov.
9	7	6	5	16	14	13	15

RPIA Board Meeting Dates*				
Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
14	11	11	8	13
Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
12	9	14	11	9

* All meetings are on Thursday evenings at 7PM

2010 RPIA Events		
EVENT	DAY	DATE
Easter Egg Hunt*	Saturday	April 3
Annual Picnic	Saturday	June 5
30-Block Garage Sale	Saturday	June 27
Holiday Breakfast	Saturday	December 4
2011 Annual Banquet	Friday	January 28, 2011

*Event may be cancelled due to inclement weather

RPIA General Membership Meetings*			
Mar.	May	Sept.	Nov.**
9	11	14	9

*All meetings held at 7 PM at the NRPCA Community House located at 18445 Scarsdale, in N. Rosedale Park.
**RPIA Election Day

Recycling News

AT & T's Project ReDirectory

AT & T is offering prizes to the schools that collect the most OLD phone books for recycling.

Recycle your old phone book at Rosedale Recycles, in the parking lot behind Christ the King Church, Pierson at Grand River.

March 20th, 10 AM - 2 PM.

Tell the recycling team the name of our school!

Help your school earn \$\$\$!

1st prize = \$500.00

2nd prize = \$300.00

3rd prize = 200.00



Rosedale Recycles' 20th Anniversary April 17!

In preparation for its 20th Anniversary,

Rosedale Recycles is collecting memories, pictures, facts, so please share with us! Were you a baby when RR started? Did you retire since 1990? By April 1, send whatever memory or story you have

that relates to RR, to Margaret Weber at 313-272-5820 or email weber@igc.org.



Shredding Opportunity June 19 at Rosedale Recycles

Rosedale Recycles has contracted with a shredder to be onsite on Saturday, June 19, from 10 am thru 2 pm. Plan ahead, save your papers that need shredding.

Rosedale-Grandmont Little League's Opening Day Set for April 24

We're planning on sunny skies and bright smiles to start the 2010 season of the Rosedale-Grandmont Little League. We'll assemble at the North Rosedale Community House at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 24, and coaches and players (boys and girls from 4 to 17) will march along Bretton Drive to Warwick and then back to the Community House for the opening ceremonies. Games will follow at area fields. The season runs until the end of June. There may still be some spots available for your child. For more information, you can send an email to: rglitleague@aol.com.





GRANDMONT ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

FARMERS' MARKET OPENS MAY 27TH

Mark your calendars and get ready for the return of fresh, delicious food and beautiful plants and flowers! The Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market will open for the 2010 season on Thursday, May 27, with a festive Flower Day. See you soon at the south parking lot of Bushnell Congregational Church, 15000 Southfield!



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Neighborhood gardening enthusiasts are invited to join the Grandmont Rosedale Community Garden at Bushnell Church. The gardening group held its first meeting of the season in mid-February, to begin making plans for what to plant in our garden this year. You can join in, too! Everyone's welcome -- call Pam Weinstein at 387-4732, ext. 103, or send email to pweinstein@grdc.org to join the group or for more information.

RENTAL PROPERTIES IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

As many of our residents have already noticed, there has been an increase in the number of renters in our community. Property owners should be aware that just as homeowners are required to pass housing inspections to sell their homes, there are inspection requirements and responsibilities that landlords must abide by in order to

rent their properties.

Owners of rental property must register each rental property with the City of Detroit Department of Building and Safety Engineering – that includes houses, apartments, or single rooms. A Certification of Registry will be provided to the owner which must be posted on the premises of the dwelling. Along with the registration, the house must undergo an annual inspection. The inspections are conducted to make sure the home is in compliance with the City of Detroit Property Maintenance Code, the Zoning Ordinance, and other ordinances. These rules are important to both the owners and tenants. They help improve property value around our neighborhoods, and keep the rental houses safe and desirable for residents.

GRDC wants to make sure that every rental in our community abides by these important rules. If you know of any rental property on your street, please contact Simon Wang, GRDC intern, at 313-387-4732 ext. 104, so that he can check to determine if the houses are on the City's rental registry list.

VACANT HOUSE ALERT

Do you have any vacant houses on your block? If so, please give GRDC Intern Simon Wang a call at 313-387-4732, ext. 104, and tell him the address. GRDC, in cooperation with all of the neighborhood associations, is trying to keep track of all of the vacancies and we need your help! We're developing a Vacant Property Strategy and it's important to keep up to date on every vacancy. Thanks for being a good neighbor.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Do you want to make a long-lasting impact on this wonderful community of ours? Why not name GRDC in your will? You could leave your home, car or a financial contribution to GRDC in your will. The tax benefits for your survivors are worth checking into - just ask your lawyer or accountant. Leave a legacy to this fine neighborhood - make a difference! Call Cathy Marshall at 387-4732, ext. 105, for more information.

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE IN GRDC-OWNED BUILDING

GRDC has prime office and retail space available for lease. The space is located in a recently renovated building on Grand River between Outer Drive and Evergreen.

GRDC con't from pg 6

Available space is 2,000 square feet. For more details, contact Tom Goddeeris at 313 387 4732, ext. 111.

GET THE GRDC E-MAIL BLAST!

GRDC operates a neighborhood-wide listserv; we send out regular weekly notices to let everybody know what's going on in our neighborhood. Information about the bulk pick-up schedule and sign-up for our neighborhood Little League are just two of the items recently sent to the folks on our list. Don't miss out on the latest! If you want to know what's happening in our neighborhood, send us your e-mail address. We'll add you to our electronic mailing list and periodically send you information of interest to the neighborhood. Just send an e-mail to our intern Simon Wang at ssteps24@gmail.com and ask to be added to the list.

The RPIA Presents: The Annual Easter Egg Hunt

What: Games, prizes and snacks!
Where: Stoepel Park
(corner of Outer Dr. & Evergreen)
When: Saturday, April 3rd
Time: 11 a.m. Until 2:00 p.m.

Volunteers needed to help make
this a Fantastic event!

Please call the RPIA Hotline at 927-1089.

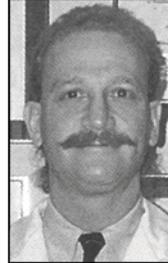
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RPIA Annual Banquet con't from pg 1

to perform the Swearing In Ceremony of the 2010 RPIA Board. Councilperson James Tate of North Rosedale Park shared the evening with us. Joining them were Commander Duane McKissic from the Detroit Police Department and Mr. Tarence Wheeler of the Northwest Detroit Neighborhood City Hall. Their attendance added an important dimension to our neighborhood Banquet and underscored the



partnership we continue to share with our City Officials in order to keep our neighborhood beautiful and livable.

The meal was very good as usual and while some were having seconds, we had to begin our program a little early, for a reason you will learn about a few lines down.

Swearing In Ceremony

While some of us were still enjoying our dinner Mr. Pugh came to the podium to perform the swearing in ceremony

Starting with joking and laughter, Mr. Pugh then became serious and had the Board repeat after him that they would "commit to do everything they could to help the residents of our communities, and of all communities in the City of Detroit in the coming year."

President Deborah Gore and Board Members Darryl Brown, Carolyn Cruse, Thomas Gatson,

Glynn McKnight, Mary McLeod, Chris Remus and Tracey Wallace all took the pledge. Board Members Greg Westbrooks, Adrienne Jordan and Dimitris Bitzarakis could not be in attendance but we knew they



Welcome to the new board for RPIA!

were there in spirit.

Mr. Pugh then bid us congratulations, thanked us for inviting him to perform our ceremony and then departed for City Airport to attend another dinner given this same evening by Mayor Dave Bing.

Awards

The Island Beautification Committee in the persons of Judith Rogan and Gigi Branum-Williams were then called to the front by President



Gore to hand out awards to the top three winning Blocks and for the Winner's Circle award. First Place went to Grandville between Fenkell and Keeler,

block captains William and Marion Cockrel. Second Place winner was Artesian between Fenkell and Keeler, block captain Carolyn Cruse. Third Place was awarded to Ashton, between Fenkell and Chalf-



onte, block captains Sheila Wright and Phil Schloop. The Winner's Circle award went to Ashton, between Eaton and Chalfonte, block captains Joe and Chiquita Spencer.

We finalized the awards with a round of applause for all the winners for their hard work, keeping Rosedale Park beautiful for all of us in the summer. We also applauded the yearly efforts of the Island Beautification Committee because without their work, we would have no awards ceremony every year. Thank you Judith, Gigi and Tina for your commitment to the judging and awards.



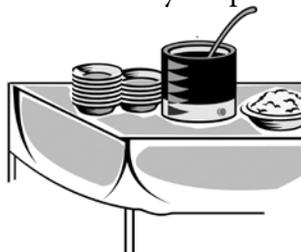
A special recognition Award was then given to Pam Weinstein of Faust, recognizing Pam as our "Northwest Detroit Farmer's Market Master,

for bringing together great food and great neighbors" and doing this every week at our Farmer's Market located at Bushnell Church. Pam spoke briefly saying that she is rewarded for this labor every Thursday, when she sees so many of us come out to the Farmer's Market. And we know that we will continue coming in droves to this wonderful, community asset and event.

Deborah Gore was then awarded the Rosedale Logo tree necklace by the Board of RPIA for her service in 2009 as President and her generous offer to repeat her Presidency for a second year in 2010. Thank you President Gore for continuing another year in this demanding and important job for Rosedale Park residents!

And then, Goodnight

Then at 9 pm sharp, Jackson Five thoroughly cleaned up and swiftly departed for their second event of the evening – the Mayor's dinner at City Airport! This was a busy and exciting night on both sides of the City of Detroit! As the evening wound down, residents finished talking and packed up leftovers for their lunch the next day.



DJ Aaron Sadler, aka DJ Hank of Q-Sounds, continued playing music while we talked some more. And the evening could not end until several of our residents came to the front of the room for a good night "Hustle"! And as we went out into the cold, we took lots of warm leftovers and lots of warm feelings for our neighbors and our dear community of Rosedale Park.



RPIA Board Meeting

Minutes: January 14, 2010

President Deborah Gore called the meeting to order at 7:15pm.

The following were present:

Board Members: Chris Remus, Deborah Gore, Carolyn Cruse, and Mary McLeod, Gregory Westbrooks, Nancy Bitzarakis, Glynn McKnights, Sr., Darryl Brown, Adrienne Jordan, Tracey Wallace.

Administrative Assistant: Priscilla McDonald.

Absent Excused: Dimitris Bitzarakis.

Financial Coordinator: Vicki McLellan.

Board Meeting Guest

Bonnie Mead introduced herself to those board members who did not know her. She will be taking on the position of newsletter editor in the interim until a replacement is found.

Financial Summary

Vicki provided the financial summary and the board reviewed it, compiling a list of needed adjustments to be discussed at a later date. Acceptance of the report is pending further review and discussion.

Block Captains' Event

The board discussed the final preparations needed for the Block Captain's event on Sunday, January 17th. A final RSVP list will be compiled by Saturday, January 16th. Carolyn passed out an updated list of houses that appear to no longer be vacant in Rosedale Park. One objective during the block captain meeting is to pass the list to the block captains and ask them to find out if the homes are occupied and obtain updated contact information for the homes on their particular blocks. This effort is an attempt to properly identify the vacant homes in Rosedale Park. The board reviewed other agenda items and the block captain's role in the community.

Annual Banquet

The board reported that the caterer and the entertainment have been finalized. Each board member committed to attempting to sell 10 tickets to the banquet. Representatives from the Detroit City Council have committed to attending and participating in the swearing-in ceremony for the 2010 RPIA Board Members.

Board Meeting Dates/Attendance

The board discussed making sure that the dates of the board meeting worked for all due to low attendance at recent meetings. It was stressed that if a member has a prior commitment that falls on the same day as a board meeting, they were asked to keep contact with another board member for notes.

Potential Board Members/Volunteers Needed

A board position had recently opened with the resignation of Sonya Pouncy. Sonya recently resigned due to prior commitments. This leaves the volunteer position of newsletter editor vacant as well as the newsletter distribution position left vacant by Kevin Kelly last year. Bonnie Mead attended the board meeting agreeing to stand in as the newsletter editor until a replacement is found. Darryl Brown will be working with Adrienne Jordan on selling ad space for the newsletter. The board will continue to discuss the needs to fill the open volunteer positions and increase efforts to find replacements for each.

The board discussed reviewing the qualifications of potential board members and additional skill sets that would be helpful in carrying out future board duties.

Radio Patrol – Proposed Integration w/Grandmont

Representatives from the Grandmont area approached RPIA in an effort to combine the two radio patrol stations. It was the consensus of many board members that this integration would not be in the best interest of Rosedale Park due to the size of the area and the lack of volunteers available to patrol.

Vacant Homes in Rosedale Park

Darryl informed the board about a group called 'Rebuilding Detroit Together' that the board may be interested in partnering with for the vacant house effort. Carolyn discussed the partnership with GRDC to place lights on vacant houses and provide services to board up vacant homes that pose a problem for the community.

RPIA Website

Deborah reported that the website is near to completion and the rest of the board will be able to review it in the near future. The due date is proposed for the end of the month.

Joint Efforts with North Rosedale Community

A number of board members proposed having joint efforts with the North Rosedale community in some instances. Combining a certain number of efforts such as events and the newsletter may be more beneficial due to shrinking communities and the economic situation at hand. Any joint ventures would have to ensure that they would work in the best interest of continuing to maintain the separate identities of the two communities.

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, February 11, 2010

Adjournment: 9:17pm

Minutes submitted by: Priscilla McDonald



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RPIA Annual Banquet Photos





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Search for New Editor

In January, Sonya Pouncy submitted her resignation as Editor of the Rosedale Park News. Since the January issue was delayed in publication, the Board made the decision to forgo publication of the February issue and concentrate instead on publication of the March issue.

Bonnie Mead was editor of the Rosedale Park News for several years in the 1970s and '80s and has accepted the position of Interim Editor while Board members begin the search for a new editor. Anyone who is interested in that position should contact one of the Board members for information.

RPIA 2010 DUES PAYMENT FORM

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

Yes, I want to *due* my part in keeping our neighborhood thriving. Enclosed please find my check or money order for the following:

RPIA 2010 Assessment for Private Rosedale Security	\$100.00
RPIA 2010 Resident Dues	\$45.00
RPIA 2010 Outer Drive Resident Dues*	\$25.00

Total Enclosed

*** Outer Drive Residents have a lower rate because their street plowing is provided by Wayne County, not RPIA.**

Make check or money order payable to RPIA and mail payments to:

RPIA, Administrator of Records
 PO Box 23113
 Detroit, MI 48223

Detroit Recreation Department to Accept Belle Isle Picnic Shelter Reservations Beginning Monday, March, 29!

Are you planning a family reunion or picnic at Belle Isle this summer? The Detroit Recreation Dept. Will take reservations for Belle Isle picnic shelters at the Belle Isle Casino beginning Mon., March 29 through Wed., March 31 from 8a.m. Until noon and 1:30 p.m. Until 3 p.m. (Doors open at 7 a.m.).

Reservations for July will take place on March 29, followed by August reservations on March 30 and reservations for May, June and September on March 31st. Payment must be made in full at the time of the reservation, either by money order or cashier's check. Personal checks will not be accepted. For more information, call 313-628-2081.



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313-927-1089**

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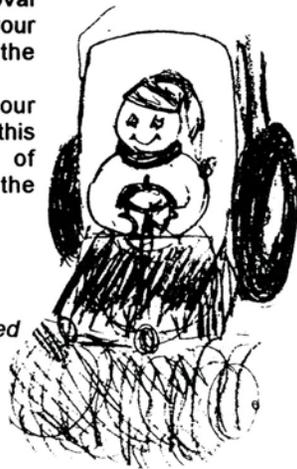
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March 2010

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- Monday Courville trash collection
Mar. 1 Ad copy deadline, Apr. *RP News*
Mar. 9 General Membership Meeting
Mar. 10 Article deadline, Apr. *RP News*
Mar. 20 Rosedale Recycles

April

- Apr. 3 RPIA Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Upcoming Events

- May 14 Bulk Trash Pick-Up (*south of Fenkell*)
May 17 Bulk Trash Pick-Up (*north of Fenkell*)



ROSEDALE RECYCLES

Saturday, Mar. 20

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
18605 Pierson St.

**City living is great.
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