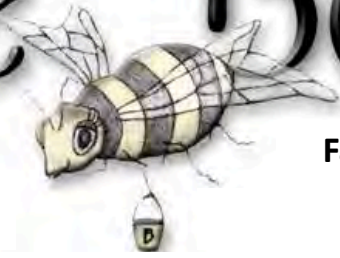


Bowmanville Bee



The Bowmanville neighborhood is bordered by Foster, Rosehill Cemetery, Ravenswood and Western. Visit our website at www.bcochicago.org.

Fall 2012

Who's Who in the BCO

OFFICERS

John Paraoan
President

Claire Shingler
Vice President

Paula Palmentera
Secretary

Menghua Sun
Treasurer

Noelle Braun-Etheridge
Joey Chiappetta

Amy Gawura

Jeff Graves

Scott Lair

Sue McCoy

Kathleen Moran

Joseph Mulherin

Anthony O'Reilly

Stewart Weiss

Barbara Wolke

Jim Yorton

COMMITTEES

Newsletter

Peggy Cassidy

news@bcochicago.org

Events

OPEN

events@bcochicago.org

Gardening

Betty Redmond

gardening@bcochicago.org

GreenSpace

Anne Boyle

greenspace@bcochicago.org

Membership

Noelle Braun-Etheridge

membership@bcochicago.org

Planning

Jeff Graves

planning@bcochicago.org

Public Art

Laura Novy

publicart@bcochicago.org

Join us on

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facebook.com/bcochicago

**BCO** Bowmanville
Community
Organization
www.bcochicago.org

Leaders Step Up To Volunteer For BCO

The BCO Annual Election will be part of the
Oct 25th BCO Annual Open Meeting
at North Community Bank, 7 PM.

Pot luck refreshments will be served –
please bring something to share.

Join us to vote in the new slate and meet and catch up on all things Bowmanville. We'll present the following slate of volunteers for the Bowmanville Community Organization:

2013 Board of Directors

Claire Shingler	President
Wes Salsbury	Vice President
Menghua Sun	Treasurer
Paula Palmentera	Secretary

Joey Chiappetta
Jeff Graves
Kathleen Moran
Joe Mulherrin
John Paraoan
Stewart Weiss
Barbara Wolke
Laura Schmidt
Maria Gullo
Julia Masenthin
Jim Nagle
Dan Lias

2014 Nominating Committee

Board reps:

John Paraoan, Claire Shingler, Barbara Wolke,
alternate Jeff Graves

Member reps:

Noelle Braun-Etheridge, Scott Lair, Laura Sabransky,
Jim Yorton, (alt. Betty Redmond)

Stepping off the board,

with our deepest thanks for time served:

Noelle Etheridge, Scott Lair, Amy Gawura, Sue McCoy,
Anthony O'Reilly, Jim Yorton

Many thanks to this year's nominating committee:
Barbara Wolke, Claire Shingler, Jeff Graves, Noelle
Etheridge, Betty Redmond, Maria Gullo, Donna Bakke
-- and all who supported the process.

Special thanks to John Paraoan for the time and energy he put into the Bowmanville Community Organization this past year. John's commitment to Bowmanville, which is not even his home base, stems from his work with area residents at North Community Bank. He has stepped up to help out as BCO President this past year, and his efforts are greatly appreciated. We welcome Claire Shingler back as the President of the BCO. Fully rested and revitalized after her sabbatical, Claire is ready to continue her community leadership role -- and that, too, is greatly appreciated.

New Member Meet & Mingle



Stop in Oct 6 from 3-5pm
Joie de Vine
1744 W Balmoral Ave

Say hello and get acquainted with neighbors, the BCO,
and other new members. We'd love to meet you!

Contact Paula Palmentera at secy@bcochicago.org
with any questions.

No RSVP required, just come!



In an age of shrinking publications, The Bowmanville Bee is going strong. It's where neighbors come for the local buzz, including news, features and area announcements. The eBee fills in the blanks between our quarterly issues, and Managing Editor Peggy Cassidy works with Layout Editor Joey Chiappetta and Ad Manager Paula Palmentera to put the super local in local news. With a reliance and gratitude to area residents and businesses for sharing relevant and informative content, the Bee squad greatly appreciates advertiser support and local input. Send your news and editorial remarks to news@bcochicago.org.



The Communications Committee provides many ways for the BCO to connect to the community and for the community to make its voice heard through the BCO. These include our website, Facebook page, quarterly newsletter (the Bowmanville Bee), online e-Bee, and e-Blasts via e-mail for timely or urgent announcements. We also manage our toll free BCO hotline 1-866-837-1006. We are seeking a new volunteer to act as editor for the online newsletters and e-blasts and people who can help keep our website current. If you have an interest in writing or editing we'd love the help. Contact: comm@bcochicago.org.



The Events Committee is one of the best ways to meet neighbors throughout the community, and have a lot of fun while you're at it! We are always looking for new twists for annual events and new event ideas. **Next BCO events: the Bowmanville Pumpkinpalooza, Oct 13th, from 1-4pm on Ravenswood Avenue (west side of the tracks) from Balmoral Ave to Berwyn Ave. This great family friendly festival is once again co-hosted by the BCO and Rogers Park Montessori School. Contact vp@bcochicago.org to volunteer.**



The BCO Gardening committee continues to face exciting and daunting challenges in 2012. We are thankful for our volunteers and still need the help of the whole community as we endeavor to improve our natural surroundings. The community's work has begun on the new greenspace, and the BCO Garden and Greenspace teams have joined forces to work on the installation of this great new addition to our community. In parallel, we continue to improve and maintain our existing three community gardens. At the Gateway garden, we are still responding to and working around the railroad bridge construction at Balmoral and Ravenswood. Can you help? Volunteer to help out, provide snacks, meals or beverages on workdays, and/or help coordinate volunteers. Contact the garden committee at gardening@bcochicago.org or 1-866-837-1006. See our work dates included in this edition of the Bee's calendar. Follow our progress and find more workday details on the BCO facebook page.



The Membership Committee focuses on ways to continually engage and support our community and grow our membership base. This is definitely an area where you can see your new ideas take flight. Our latest membership activity is a **New Member Meet & Mingle coming up on Oct 6th at Joie de Vine (1744 W. Balmoral Ave) from 3-5pm**, followed by our **Annual Open Meeting & Election on October 25th at 7pm at North Community Bank (5235 N Western Ave)**. Stop by to say hello, no RSVP required. Contact membership@bcochicago.org to help us.

Like public radio, all of our neighbors can freely enjoy the benefits of the hard work of the BCO. But in the end, "Membership makes it happen"! Join or renew today, we'd love to have you! Over 200 community members recognize the value of what the BCO does for this community, and know that it doesn't happen without financial and volunteer support. BCO membership fees are low at \$20 annually.



The Planning & Development committee gathers to discuss issues of change, development, and improvement of our fine community. We interact with local residents, businesses, and the Alderman's office to advantageously grow our community. Contact Chairman Jeff Graves for information: planning@bcochicago.org – all are welcome!



The BCO GreenSpace Committee continues its focus on fundraising and site planning for the newly acquired green space at 5384 N. Bowmanville. This committee is also working hard to expand the space. We need your help as we continue to move forward with our goal of making Bowmanville one of the greenest, most livable communities in Chicago. Please join us in this effort! To get involved, please contact greenspace@bcochicago.org.



The Public Art committee was formed in 2010 to explore the idea of a mural in the Berwyn pedestrian tunnel. That idea became reality very quickly! Do you have a good idea for additional public art in Bowmanville? Put it out there. Contact publicart@bcochicago.org for more information.

Community News

Letter From Our Once And Future President – Claire Shingler

When a number of new hands went up in answer to the BCO call for volunteer leadership, Claire Shingler sent each of them the following message – a message that resonates across the neighborhood, for all those who want to get involved, but hesitate due to time restraints or a concern that they might not have enough to give. Claire presents the opportunity in a different light.

I so appreciate the willingness of all the neighbors who get involved to support our community, and look forward to working with all of you to keep Bowmanville moving forward. We have a year of new faces, new friendships and some fun and worthwhile endeavors ahead of us.

One of the beauties of this organization is the flexibility for you to find your niche within it, and to focus on things that personally matter to you at the level of time that you can manage. Please start thinking about exactly that – what are you passionate about? And how can we connect that to initiatives in the community? Whether it's creating a great local experience for families, ensuring a walkable and safe environment, advocating for safe(r) sidewalks or reduced crime, more public art, realizing goals for green space, solving traffic or development challenges, improving relationships, hospitality, event planning, accounting or some new idea or challenge you may have in mind. There are opportunities right in your own back yard, so to speak. The BCO wants your input.

One thing I keep coming back to is my personal goal to create a sense of 'connectedness' to others, for myself and my family, as well as for neighbors within our community.



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Community News

Metra Lays Track While Neighbors Wait, Wonder and Worry

Metra spokespersons have been transparent with the railroad's plans to lay a third track while replacing 22 bridges along the Union Pacific North Line, which runs on the eastern edge of Bowmanville. Residents can't help but be aware of the ongoing project, and our community gardeners have been on high alert, waiting to see how their garden beds will survive the chaos. It seems now, as fall nears and the harvest season is upon us, the Gateway Gardens have managed to hold their own, despite the grueling heat of the summer and the disarray just yards from their roots.

"Metra is committed to doing everything it can to minimize the impact of the retaining wall work on landscaping in the area," according to its Web site, and Walsh Construction, the company overseeing the work, has been true to the rail company's word.

The work on the railroad continues. When recently asked if the rail work would interfere with the annual Fall Festival – Pumpkinpalooza, as it's being called this year – a spokesperson for Walsh Construction, the company overseeing the work, said, "You should be good to go as far as the festival goes in October."

That's not to say that the project will be finished. Not by a long shot. The anticipated completion date for the project, which includes an updated Ravenswood Station, is November 2015.

Local Gardeners Share Sustainability Fair



In addition to minding the crops, Bowmanville garden volunteers participated in the Accelerate 77 Share Fair, sponsored by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, on Sept. 15. Held at Truman College, the fair brought together various environmental groups and businesses from all 77 Chicago neighborhoods. Pictured here, left to right, are Ben Helphand, Executive Director of NeighborSpace, his daughter Selah (in the stroller), and BCO garden volunteers Maria Gullo, Erin Ryan and Dan Connors. Bowmanville resident Jeff Stoffel also volunteered for the event.

Voted best eco-friendly shop!
Time Out Chicago
Oct 2011

Nadeen Kieren
 Shopkeeper

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Community News

Bowmanville T-shirts

Our IL State Rep. Greg Harris was the first one sporting the new t-shirt at our Aug 12th Ice Cream social! He is seen here with Bowmanville neighbor Jack Beaupied.

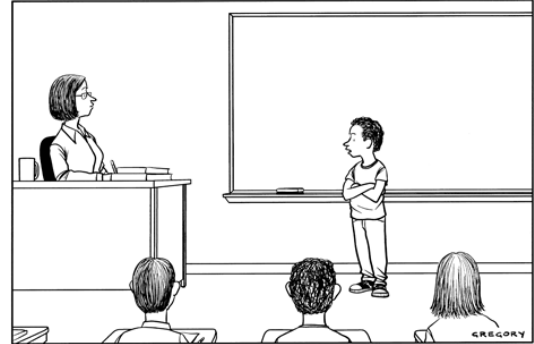
Email your order/size(s) to vp@bcochicago.org and we'll get 'em to you and pick up the money; and of course will have them at events.

Sizes are S M L XL XXL. They're only \$20 for Men's & Youth, \$22 for Women's. Aren't they great?



Back To School—Again

by Peggy Cassidy



"Anyone following me on Twitter already knows what I did this past summer."

Bowmanville kids are all finally back to school as this newsletter goes to print. Many of them experienced a false start when The Chicago Teachers Union went on strike just days into the new school year. It was a difficult time for all involved; students, parents and teachers. All would agree that September is a time for children to be in classrooms learning. That expectation was realized when classes resumed on Sept. 19.

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Serving Up Ice Cream and Summer Fun in Bowmanville's New Greenspace!



Thanks to event organizer **Ann Scholhamer**, the Bowmanville community — and special guest Illinois State Representative **Greg Harris** (shown in the group photo below) — enjoyed a beautiful afternoon playing with new friends and old in our new community greenspace at the **10th annual BCO Ice Cream Social** on August 12. *Thanks to **Cindy Burgin** for photographing the event.*



New Sign Sparks Interest in Greenspace Design Plan



Tom Kennedy with the new display panel installed in Bowmanville's new greenspace. Tom contributed production of the large sign to the cause. Special thanks to **Joe Charles** for his masterful framing and installation of the sign.

Thanks to longtime Bowmanville resident Tom Kennedy, a new 6-foot tall sign greeted visitors to the new greenspace on the day of the Ice Cream Social. Featuring a sketch created by GreenSpace Committee member **Kris Neurauter**, the sign illustrates the landscaping plan that emerged after a series of community brainstorming sessions in 2010. This plan is now being implemented by a newly formed Greenspace Design Group that has been meeting over the summer to identify tree and plant species for the new greenspace, map out materials needed for the Stump Stomp and Rock Walk areas, determine locations for the new rain garden, arbor and benches as well as other hardscape features. Led by Neurauter, members of the design group include **Ellen Jurczak, Diana Liefer, Mary Jude Ramirez, Betty Redmond, Katy Rico, Ellen Schmidt, Dena Van der Wal,** and **Poonam Thaker.**

FUNDRAISING FUN: **The Berwyn-Bell Block Club** raised more than \$100 for greenspace land development at their annual block party, which was held in August.

Thank you all for helping to bring our community greenspace to life!

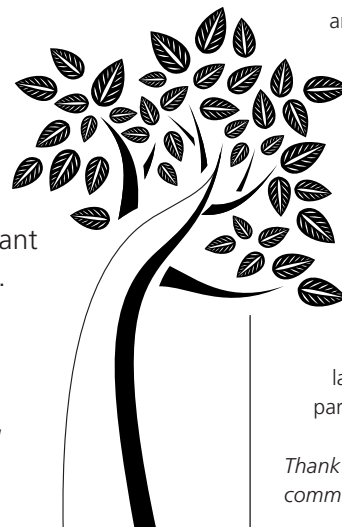
VOTE for our Community Greenspace!

We have entered the **Space In Between 2012 Placemaking Contest**, a 250-word competition that awards cash prizes to projects that creatively transform vacant lots and buildings into vibrant community gathering places.

Go to **www.wizehive.com/vote/space-in-between**
Select **Building a Park...with Ice Cream!**

Voting deadline: **October 5, 11:59 pm** *Spread the word!*

Special thanks to Betty Redmond for her creative writing and pursuit of this opportunity on behalf of our community!



Annual Financials – the View from 2011

HamBINGO a Wild Night to Remember



HamBINGO event organizers **Andrea Miller** (left) and **Nora Hennessy**

On Monday, August 27, The Bowmanville Community Gardens hosted a rousing bingo fundraiser at Hamburger Mary's on Clark Street in Andersonville. More than 40 Bowmanville neighbors and friends from across the city enthusiastically joined the event, which netted \$436 for the BCO Greenspace and gardens. The new, artistically designed BCO shirts were a hit too, thanks to Anne Boyle who oversaw sales totaling \$86.

In addition to a wild and wonderful emcee, Velicity, who inspired bingo attendees to laugh and dance, we are grateful to Hamburger Mary's for partnering with the BCO for the second time this year. They served wonderful drinks and snacks; the sweet potato fries were a big hit, as were \$5 margaritas!

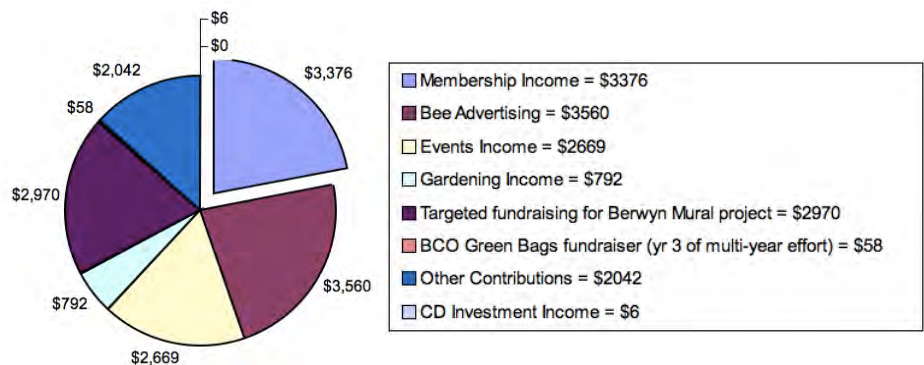
For their generous donations, we want to express our gratitude to local merchants who contributed a wonderful array of prizes for bingo winners: **Koval Distillery, The Haymaker Shop, Painted Light Photography + Framing Gallery, The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, The Coffee Studio, YR&G Sustainability, and Provenance Food and Wine.** Additional highlights among the prizes were 10 lbs of worm castings from a Wisconsin worm farmer **Brian Carney** and an array of garden books donated by **Betty Redmond**, Garden Committee Chair.

Bowmanville's gardens and new greenspace play a vital role in the neighborhood, creating beautiful areas for the community to gather and to play. All proceeds from bingo support the planning, development, and maintenance of our newly acquired property at 5384 N. Bowmanville. As we know, Bowmanville is one of the most livable communities in the City of Chicago. Thanks everyone who came out for such a successful and fun evening of community building and support!

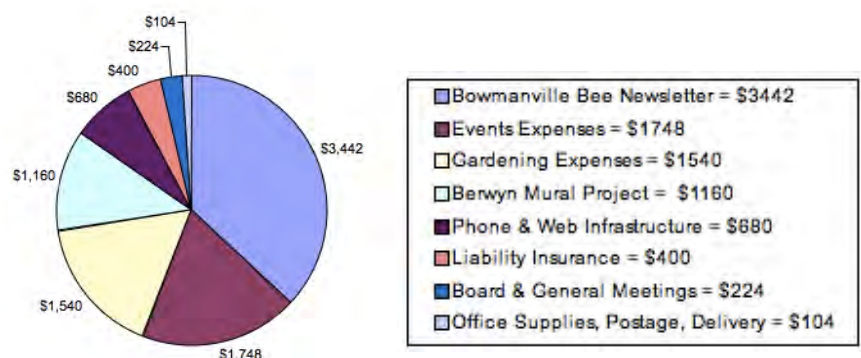
The graphs shown here give you a snapshot of the financials for the Bowmanville Community Organization from the previous full year (2011). As of this data from 2011, the BCO is in solid financial shape and able to pursue important initiatives. Our active member roster is now at ~265 households and continues to grow, and the membership fee adjustment to \$20 annually has now been fully implemented. Giving is up, with the 'other contributions' category showing an increase since we implemented online membership payments and renewals. Printing costs for the Bowmanville Bee continue to be paid with income earned from advertisers. We hope you will patronize them whenever possible. And overall, our events P&L is increasingly positive, with the bump in 2011 coming from the Fall Festival.

THANK YOU for your stewardship of your community organization. Your support, coupled with volunteerism of so many neighbors, makes Bowmanville a great place to live. Every little bit (of time or money) helps us to thrive. Don't miss out on being a part of it. Membership Makes it Happen! Join or renew online today: www.bcochicago.org

2011 Year End BCO Income Total = \$15,473



2011 Year End BCO Expenses Total = \$9,298



NOTE: The financials show above do not include funds raised or spent by the greenspace committee. Those numbers are tracked via a separate BCO GreenSpace Chicago balance sheet and held in a physically separate bank account.

Bee Contributions Welcome

Have a story to tell, a horn to toot about a good neighbor we should all know about, or an article to contribute? Submissions from all ages are welcome. Please contact us at news@bcochicago.org.

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7.5"W x 5"H

For further information, or to reserve space in the next issue of the Bowmanville Bee please contact ads@bcochicago.org or 866-837-1006.

Deadline for the Next Bee: Jan 11

Help Deliver the Bee!

Volunteers are always needed and welcome! Please call 866-837-1006 or email news@bcochicago.org

Need another Bee?

You can find them at the following local businesses:
- North Community Bank
- The Book Cellar
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- Let Them Eat Chocolate
- Green Sky

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Bowmanville Community Organization c/o Menghua Sun - Treasurer
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New Member Renewal

Name(s) _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email(s) _____

Areas where I can help out in the coming year:

- Event Planning: Street Sale Garden Walk Ice Cream Social Fall Festival
- Membership outreach Gardening Finance
- GreenSpace initiatives Planning and Development Bee delivery
- Public Art initiatives Communications (newsletters, website, email, Facebook)

Please take a moment to answer the questions below. Your answers will help us focus our efforts on your behalf.

What year did you move to Bowmanville? _____

Do you live in a house or multi-unit building? House Multi-unit (>2 units)

How many adults (18-65) are in your household? ____ How many seniors (over 65) are in your household? ____

How many children (under 18) are in your household? ____

What type of new BCO programming would interest you? _____

Comments or feedback? _____

BCO Calendar of Events

(Committee contacts listed on page 1; check website for schedule updates)



Sep 29	Garden workday	9:30am-3:30pm
Sep 29	BCO Pub Crawl & Poker Run for GreenSpace	
Oct 6	New Member Meet & Mingle, Joie de Vine	3-5pm
Oct 10	Garden worknight	6pm-dusk
Oct 13	Pumpkinpalooza (Bowmanville's Fall Festival)	
Oct 25	Open Meeting & Election	7pm NCB
Oct 27	Garden workday	9:30am-1:30pm