# Bowmanville neighborhood is bordered by Foster, Rosehill Cemetery, Ravenswood and Western. Visit our website at <a href="https://www.bcochicago.org">www.bcochicago.org</a>. Fall 2015

### Who's Who in the BCO

### **OFFICERS**

Dan Lias

President@BCOChicago.org

Laura Schmidt VP@BCOChicago.org

Peter McFadden
Secy@BCOChicago.org

Dan Chapman Treasurer@BCOChicago.org

B.A. Church
Kate Clark
Sabine Cummins
William Ferguson
Jeff Graves
Craig Hanenburg
Kathleen Moran Feeney
Lori Morlock
Ann Scholhamer
Claire Shingler
Stewart Weiss
Jim Yorton

### COMMITTEES

Newsletter Tim Noworyta news@bcochicago.org

Events
Tammi Sinegal
events@bcochicago.org

Gardening David Johnston gardening@bcochicago.org

GreenSpace greenspace@bcochicago.org

Membership
Kathleen Moran
membership@bcochicago.org

Planning Lori Morlock planning@bcochicago.org

Public Art publicart@bcochicago.org

Join us on Facebook facebook.com/BCOChicago

BCO Bowmanville Community Organization www.bcochicago.org

# Hear What's Going on and Let Your Voice Be Heard!

Please join us at 7:00 pm on Thursday, October 22, at 1800 W. Balmoral (Rogers Park Montessori) for the **BCO Open Meeting and Annual Election**. Catch up on Bowmanville news, vote for our new board, visit with neighbors and welcome new members. Come meet the people that help keep our community thriving.

Join the dialogue! We'll have speakers talking about the new West Ridge Nature Center, a food co-op called Chicago Market that's looking at sites in Bowmanville, and local airplane noise. Refreshments will be pot-luck style — please bring something to share if you can.

The meeting is open to all residents and friends of Bomwanville, and all active BCO members are eligible to vote. Memberships can be renewed at the beginning of the meeting or online. If you are not sure of your membership status please email <a href="mailto:treasurer@bcochicago.org">treasurer@bcochicago.org</a>.

### The 2016 Slate of Nominees for BCO Board of Directors

In accordance with our by-laws, we are pleased to present the following slate of candidates for election on October 22. The vote is on the entire slate, rather than individual members. **The slate consists of 16 Board of Director Positions, with four designated officers:** 

- 1. B.A. Church
- 2. Kate Clark
- 3. Sabine Cummins
- 4. Kathleen Moran Feeney
- 5. William Ferguson, President
- 6. Jeff Graves
- 7. Craig Hanenburg, Treasurer
- 8. Dan Lias

- 9. Peter McFadden, Secretary
- 10. Laura Schmidt Vice President
- 11. Ann Scholhamer
- 12. Claire Shingler
- 13. Stewart Weiss
- 14. Michelle Wilson
- 15. Mona Yaeger
- 16. Jim Yorton

If you missed a chance to join the board but still want to get involved, please get in touch at <a href="mailto:membership@bcochicago.org">membership@bcochicago.org</a>. There are many ways to keep Bowmanville moving forward.

### **2016 Nominating Committee**

Members will also vote to approve a Nominating Committee:

**Board reps:** Peter McFadden, Ann Scholhamer, Claire Shingler alternate Kathleen Moran Feeney **Member reps:** Noelle Etheridge, David Johnston, Paula Palmentera, Laura Moser, alternate Lori Morlock

BCO Open Meeting & Election!

Open to all! Neighbors. News. Nosh.

Topics: the new West Ridge Nature Center, a food co-op coming to B-ville,

Airplane noise

October 22 • 7:00 pm • 1800 W. Balmoral (Rogers Park Montessori)



Bowmanville's community newsletter, <u>The Bowmanville Bee</u>, is published quarterly with the goal of sharing the neighborhood buzz and promoting local business. New Managing Editor Tim Noworyta, Layout Editor Joey Chiappetta and Ad Manager Paula Palmentera work closely with BCO members and neighbors to gather and present the local stories that help make Bowmanville the unique and proud community it's become. The Bee urges the submission of relevant content to <a href="mailto:news@bcochicago.org">news@bcochicago.org</a>.



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 and email eBlasts for timely or urgent announcements. We also manage our BCO hotline (773) 349-2268 and have joined twitter! We are seeking a new volunteer to act as editor for the email eBlasts 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.



<u>The Events Committee</u> 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. We also have an ongoing series of informal 'Bee Social' meet-ups taking place around the community to bring neighbors together. **Contact events@bcochicago.org** with an idea for a next Bee Social or to pitch in on any event. We'd love to hear from you. Our main events occur June through September.



The BCO Gardening Committee continues to enhance and maintain our community garden spaces. We are thankful for our volunteers and still need the help of the whole community as we endeavor to improve our natural surroundings. We look to the entire community to join our efforts in implementing a sensible and enduring stewardship plan for all of our open spaces. For more details and to pitch in contact the garden committee at <a href="mailto:gardening@bcochicago.org">gardening@bcochicago.org</a> or on our phone line (773) 349-2268. Please join any workdays when you see volunteers in the gardens. The scheduled work dates are posted online and included in the Bee's calendar (back page).



<u>The Membership Committee</u> focuses on ways to continually engage and support our community and grow our membership base. We reach out to new neighbors and new and renewing members to help match their interests with needs in the community. Our **next Open Meeting will be October 22**. Reach out via email at <u>membership@bcochicago.org</u>. Get involved, you won't regret it!

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.



<u>The Planning & Development (P&D) committee</u> gathers periodically to discuss issues of change, development and improvement of our fine community. P&D interacts with local residents, businesses, and the Alderman's office to influence the evolution of our community. The P&D committee meets as issues arise. Reach out to the chair of P&D with ideas and feedback or to join the committee <u>planning@bcochicago.org</u>. **We'll need a new P&D chair to step in come October.** Think about it!



The BCO GreenSpace Committee will strive to complete development and create a maintenance plan for the green space at 5384 N. Bowmanville. This also continues to look for opportunities to expand the space. We need your help as we continue to move forward with our goal of ensuring Bowmanville is one of the greenest, most livable communities in Chicago. To get involved, please contact <a href="maintenance-greenspace-



<u>The Public Art committee</u> 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 <u>publicart@bcochicago.org</u> for more information.



# Gone, but Still in the Neighborhood

Did you ever wonder who lived in the large brown-brick house by the cemetery on Bowmanville Avenue? Several windows have been boarded up, and some say the lonely building has been vandalized and left uninhabitable — maybe even haunted.

Thanks to Jim Craig of Evanston, who shares stories about the people buried in Rosehill and other cemeteries through a blog called <u>Under Every Stone</u>, we now know at least some of the people who lived there. Jim considers Rosehill the most beautiful cemetery he's ever seen and often wondered how that place, steeped in history and populated with the remains of many area residents and civic leaders, came to be so gorgeous.

So when he learned that one of Rosehill's "residents," Elmer Henning,

played a big role in making the memorial space so lovely, he wanted to tell Hennig's story. Here are some highlights of Jim's blog article, "The Fairest and Most Honest Boss They Ever Had — Elmer A. Hennig," from October 2014. Thanks, Jim!

### A hard-working Chicagoan

Born in Chicago in 1905, Elmer Hennig was hired as a groundskeeper at Rosehill in 1925 at age 20. He married the love of his life, Bertha, in 1926, and the two lived in a cozy apartment on West Thorndale Ave., paying the rent of \$51 a month from his salary as a "Clerk in a Cemetery." Bertha continued to work for Elmer's previous employer, Corticelli Silk Company in Chicago, where the two had met and fallen in love. In 1935 the couple welcomed a daughter, Judith Ann.

A hard worker, Hennig was named General Superintendent of Rosehill in 1938. With that promotion came a new residence for the family, the brick house at 5350 Bowmanville Avenue, which the cemetery provided for him. Currently vacant, the house was a happy home for Elmer and his family for many years. Former

Bowmanville resident Barbara Dallia, recalls spending "many an overnight" there with her childhood friend, Judy. (see Elmer Hennig, continued on page 10)

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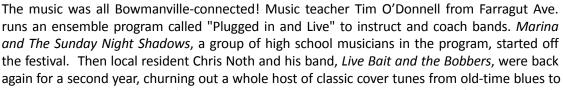
# 2015 Summer Social a Real Treat!

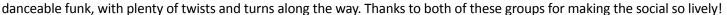


Despite the 90-plus temperature, more than 400 people came to Bowmanville Avenue on August 15 for BCO's annual Summer Social. Those who did were treated to foot-stomping music, fun activities, great food and a chance to meet, greet and chat with people from the community.

The free ice cream, provided by Pauline's Restaurant, was an especially welcomed refreshment for young, old and those in-between. The food tent featured locally made bratwursts from Bowmanville resident Chef Martin, along with hot dogs and veggie brat options. And Urban Pooch provided treats for our canine residents, as well as information about their new (and beautiful!) training facility down the street.

The kids had a blast! Rogers Park Montessori School had hands-on practical life and craft activities for toddlers and kids, while Diti Chicago provided each child a chance to make a one-of-a-kind piece of original artwork. (If you haven't already, don't forget to pick up yours at the store at 2200 W. Foster!) Wilder Wonder (Berwyn resident Jen Stubbs) promoted nature-play opportunities for the children by enabling them to print beautiful, creative artwork with nature materials, and Language Stars provided fun games and songs. Plus, thanks to Bowmanville resident Jimmy Hannon, Fire Station 110 came out again to offer a cool break and tour in their truck.



















Thanks, too, to those who donated the goods for our Summer Social fundraising raffle: Toys Et Cetera, Alamo Shoes, Stella & Dot Jewelry, Arbonne, Ava Anderson Products, Enjoy in Lincoln Square, Byline Bank, Language Stars, Rogers Park Montessori School, Norwood Car Wash and Half Acre Brewery.

Finally, many thanks to new Bowmanville resident Mona Yaeger for assisting with the social's organization, setup, volunteer wrangling and overall hand-holding! If we could have more residents like Mona involved each year, we could offer even more activities and fun for all ages. Please join the BCO and sign up to volunteer for an event like this or to serve on a committee. We would welcome your help, and you would have the satisfaction of making our community an even better place to live!



### **Marina and The Sunday Night Shadows**

Marina Castillo - vocals

Alex Wilcox - Guitar and Piano
Joey Finnegan - Bass
Peter Kishler - Drums
Tim O'Donnell - Guitar



### Live Bait and the Bobbers

Squeaky - drums, vocals Chris Noth - bass, vocals Alex Lemon – guitar Dick Carlson - tenor sax, flute Bri Schumacher - lead vocals



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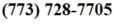
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# Elk in Bowmanville? Yes — at least their bones...



Two Bowmanville neighbors made an interesting find this summer. In early June, Jeff Graves and Jack Beaupied were working in their back yard, weeding and planting. As Jeff walked along their patio, he noticed something that made him stop in his tracks.

"I saw a piece of a jawbone about seven inches long, complete with a double row of teeth, just lying out in the open. I cautiously picked it up and immediately realized it was very old — and very strange. I looked around, but couldn't find any other pieces. I showed it to Jack, and we agreed it was something worth investigating."

Over the course of several days Jeff and Jack showed the jawbone to neighbors and friends. When they mentioned it to Janet and Roy Ahlgren, their neighbors two doors to the east, Jeff was surprised to find that the Ahlgrens had found a similar jawbone in their back yard. "Janet immediately went into her house and came out with what looked like the

other half of the jawbone I had discovered. She said that it, too, was just lying out in the open in their back yard."

What animal were the bones from, and how or why did they end up in the neighbors' yards? To find out, Ahlgrens' son, Eric, took the bones to researchers at the Field Museum of Natural History, where he volunteers. The researchers identified them as elk jawbones that were at least 150 years old, and added that elk had definitely lived in the Bowmanville area prior to modern development of the Northside.

But why the bones were just laying out in the open for Jeff and the Ahlgrens to find remains a mystery. The bones were not dirty; in fact they seemed rather clean, as if they were in someone's collection. What do you think?

# State Representative Greg Harris - 13th District

1967 W. Montrose Ave. Chicago, IL 60613 Ph: 773/348-3434 Fax: 773/348-3475



Thank you Bowmanville Community Organization for your service to our community!

www.GregHarris.org



# Yay, Bowmanville!

When I was born in 1943, my parents (Bostroms) lived with my mom's parents (Kelleys) at 2221 W. Berwyn Avenue. I stayed there until 1954. I have many wonderful memories of growing up in this beautiful neighborhood and was very sad when we left.

But I don't remember anyone ever calling it "Bowmanville." Maybe at the time the name still had overtones of people being duped by Mr. Bowman, so no one wanted to use it. Or maybe I was too young to hear it. I used to bicycle up Bowmanville Street to Bryn Mawr Ave to visit my cousins in Edgewater, and I remember thinking about the cemetery on my right as I got back, but I didn't remember the name of the street either. In fact, at 72, I had to Google the address, and look at various neighborhood maps, to find out the name of the neighborhood I grew up in!

I'm hugely pleased to see what's going on — the community garden, arts center, the Berwyn mural, and your organization. Maybe it's just that I've matured, but neighborhood pride there seems much, much stronger than when I was a kid. And that's a great thing. So congratulations to all who have helped make it such a wonderful community! Yay, Bowmanville!



John Bostrom Staten Island





# **BCO Gardening Notes**



Did you happen to notice neighbor Joe Charles watering the gardens along Bowmanville Avenue last month? Many plants and trees in our gardens were stressed by the late summer dry weather. A big "Thank you!" to Joe and all the other garden volunteers who helped with watering and garden maintenance this year, especially those who pitched in on our Gardening Days.

The end of summer does not mean the end of gardening. Though our gardens require care and maintenance throughout the year, fall is one of the busiest times. Debris and dead growth can be removed, though flower heads with seeds are often left behind as wild bird food. Perennial plants can be divided and replanted, bulbs can be planted, and dead trees or shrubs replaced.

Speaking of perennials, if you are dividing yours and would like to share extras with neighbors, please <u>post a notice on the BCO Facebook page</u> or send a note to <u>gardening@bcochicago.org</u> letting us know what you have to share. We'll put the word out and maybe spread more green and beauty around Bowmanville.

If you haven't already seen it, the large new sign welcoming visitors to the Bowmanville Garden has found a home at the east end of the garden along Bowmanville Avenue. Created by the X Gallery, the striking sign was presented to the community by Frank Ciucur of the Leadway Bar & Grill. Thank you, Frank!



# A Greener, Sustainable Bowmanville

# West Ridge Nature Center Now Open!





After more than 10 years of advocating for it, as of Sunday September 20, Bowmanville neighbors can finally enjoy the newly opened West Ridge Nature Center in the northwest corner of Rosehill Cemetery.

With just over a mile of walking trails, a pond and wetlands, viewing overlooks, a story walk and more, Bowmanvillagers will flock to nature's newest landscape in their backyard.

Take a look at the variety of birds being spotted at <a href="http://ebird.org/ebird/hotspot/L3921197">http://ebird.org/ebird/hotspot/L3921197</a>. Better yet, create an account and help track the species passing through while you are out on your nature walks. The have been 47 species identified since September 22.

After a first pass by Streets & Sanitation teams, neighbors joined park stewards on Oct 3 to clear glass and debris from the sidewalks along Western Avenue to ensure safe access to the center on foot or via bicycle from Bowmanville.



This nature area has much to offer. A special experience will be the chance to see this natural space develop and regenerate over time. On opening day, park stewards led a butterfly release and a nature story walk, among other activities. Since then, the park hosted a 'Shoot the Geese' meetup with tips on photographing geese passing overhead, and neighbors who helped with the sidewalk cleanup heard first hand stories of animal activity in the area. Stay tuned for more programming and enjoy! Follow what's going on via the West Ridge Park Advocacy Committee's Facebook page.



# Elmer Hennig (continued from Page 3)



Mr. Hennig's work in building and expanding Rosehill was again recognized in 1951, when he was named President and Superintendent of the company. The following years brought more growth and distinction to Rosehill Cemetery, and the Hennigs were blessed with two grandchildren, Judy's daughter in 1958 and a son in 1961.

In 1970, Hennig was 65 years old and considering retirement. But the cemetery owners begged him to stay on as they made another addition to the mausoleum. Since Elmer had been involved in every addition to it since the 1930s, they considered his experience and expertise irreplaceable.

Hennig agreed to stay on, aiming to complete the new addition in five years, and giving him an even 50 years with Rosehill. What he wasn't expecting was having a beautiful new chapel with warm wood paneled walls named after him. It remains the Elmer Arthur Hennig Chapel and, at its dedication on April 30, 1975, Board Member Rufus Beach said, "The calm beauty of the Rosehill grounds is a tribute to (Hennig's) care and concern for the property."

### At rest in his beloved cemetery

Elmer Hennig served as President and Superintendent of the Rosehill Cemetery Co. from 1952 to 1975. He lost his wife of 50 years, Bertha, to illness in 1977. Bertha was buried in Rosehill, as was Elmer's second wife, Catherine Newren, in 1984. When Elmer died at the age of 84 he, too, was buried in his beloved Rosehill.

Judith told Craig that it was a cold and bitter day when Hennig was to be laid to rest. Despite the cold conditions, she said many people went to the graveside after the funeral in the chapel named for him.

"We found many men there in work clothes," she said. "I was delighted to recognize so many familiar faces. They were men who didn't realize until that day that they had prepared a grave for their boss and friend." The men told her that her dad was "the most honest and fairest boss they could imagine."

Perhaps Elmer's spirit still roams through his former house on Bowmanville, which is part of an 11-acre parcel that Service Corporation International, current owners of Rosehill, has had on the market for some time. And perhaps he, like many of us, wonders what will become of it.





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Contact

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 (773) 349-2268

# Deadline for the Next Bee: Jan 10

# Help Deliver the Bee!

Volunteers are always needed and welcome!

Contact (773) 349-2268 news@bcochicago.org

# Need another Bee?

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# BOWMANVILLE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION - MEMBERSHIP FORM --

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	New Memb	er 📮 Renewal	
Name(s)			
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Areas where I can help out in the comi			
Event Planning: 🖵 Street Sale	<b>⊒</b> Garden Walk	☐ Summer Social	☐ Fall Event (TBD)
Membership outreach	🖵 Garden	ing	☐ Finance
<ul><li>☐ GreenSpace initiatives</li><li>☐ Public Art initiatives</li></ul>	<ul><li>Planning and Development</li><li>Bee delivery</li><li>Communications (newsletters, website, email, Facebook)</li></ul>		
Please take a moment to answer the q What year did you move to Bowmanvil			p us focus our efforts on your beha
Do you live in a house or multi-unit bui	lding? 🗖 House	Multi-ur	nit (>2 units)
How many adults (18-65) are in your ho	ousehold? F	low many seniors (ov	ver 65) are in your household?
How many children (under 18) are in y	our household? _		
What type of new BCO programming w	vould interest yoι	ı?	
Comments or feedback?			

### **BCO Calendar of Events**

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

Oct 6	Gardening evening at Gateway Garden on Ravenswood	5:30pm until dus
Oct 10	Rosehill Cemetery Crypt 5k	7pm
Oct 14	CAPS Meeting	7-8pm
Oct 17	RPMS Pumpkinpalooze	11am-2pm
Oct 22	BCO Fall Open Meeting and Election	7pm
Oct 24	Gardening Day at the Bowmanville Garden & greenspace	9:30am
Oct 31	WANT Ghostly Garden	1pm
Nov 7	Amundsen High School Open House	10am
Nov 11	Gardening Evening	6pm - dusk
Nov 15	Veggie Gadens 'Put to Bed' Deadline	
Nov 19	BCO Board meeting	7pm
Dec 16	BCO Board meeting	7pm

<sup>\*</sup>Contact <a href="mailto:secy@bcochicago.org">secy@bcochicago.org</a> for BCO Board meeting locations as they change monthly