



winter 2008 newsletter

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President's Message

Thanks to the entire Association for a wonderful, productive year so far. From the revision and passage of the Code last summer to the election of new officers, the convening and planning of the committees, and our recognition by the city with the Martin Luther King, Jr. award, our organization has established itself as one of the most organized and active neighborhood associations in Shaker Heights. Our efforts have not gone unnoticed—Mayor Leikin and all the Shaker Council members are impressed by our work and are committed to support us. With a strong neighborhood organization, people recognize that our neighborhood is vibrant, and we all benefit.



Even though we have momentum, we have only begun to address all the tasks we set for ourselves in Vision

2012. Let's pledge to maintain this energy and draw even more people in by reaching out to our neighbors and inviting them to attend regular meetings (second Thursday of every month), to work on committees, and to participate in Association-sponsored activities, such as our upcoming Spaghetti Dinner on April 27 to benefit the Ogbuji family. Please also remember that we all share responsibility for our neighborhood appearance. As the days grow longer, we look forward to spring, when the grass turns green, flowers bloom, and the trees leaf out, and more people go outside for neighborhood walks. It is a beautiful time in our city, but the melting snow initially reveals winter rash accumulated on our lawns. Imagine how great our neighborhood would look if every pedestrian took a plastic bag and picked up 3 pieces of trash on every neighborhood walk (including your own pet's droppings, of course). I look forward to seeing all of you out there and at the March meeting.

Committee Updates

Beautification

The Neighborhood Beautification Committee has been extraordinarily busy this year working on projects that will benefit



Lomond Hill, February 2008

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the entire Lomond Community. A few of our projects are highlighted below:

Flower Baskets on Lomond

Once again, we will have beautiful hanging baskets along Lomond Boulevard this summer. The city has offered to maintain all the baskets and purchase enough flower baskets to fill in poles that our association does not sponsor. The Beautification Committee will be seeking donations in the coming weeks to help fund our 16 flower baskets that are hung in front of Lomond School. The city will take care of the rest! Look for more details to come.

Gridley Triangle

The results of our Gridley Triangle survey were discussed at length at the last General Association meeting. Some general responses from <http://lomondonline.com/surveys/> were:

- 61% of residents feel Gridley Triangle is in 'Poor' to 'Fair' condition
- 94% feel that Gridley Triangle is an important symbol of our community and should reflect high quality standards expected in Shaker Heights
- 36% would like to see Gridley Triangle remain a playground-free area
- Top 5 areas of improve include in order: Sandbox Removal, Additional Landscaping, Tables and Benches,

Additional Lighting, Improved Flagstone Patio

- Gridley Triangle was rated at a level of importance to the Lomond Community at 6.8 out of 10. 10 was the highest priority

The committee has a meeting scheduled with Gary Lower of Public Works to go over the survey results, gather information, and make preliminary recommendations. A full report of the association's desires will be produced and handed out to all necessary city officials in the coming months.

— Dena Smith

Fund for the Future

Gail Gibson from Fund for the Future is looking for proposals for grant distribution for external home projects. This grant program matches homeowner contributions up to \$7,500 for improvements made to their home within certain guidelines. This program is an incredible opportunity for the Lomond Community to get assistance in beautifying our streets, bringing back historical character, and improving the overall curb appeal of our homes. The Beautification Committee is looking for general ideas and potential proposals that could be presented to Gail. Some ideas that have been given are exterior home painting, shutter replacement, historical detailing, and landscaping. We are looking for suggestions from

residents on what could have a large impact on the overall appeal of Lomond as a wonderful community to call home.

Perennial Exchange

Calling all gardeners or gardener want-to-be's! The Beautification Committee is planning its First Annual Perennial Exchange for this fall. So hang on to your extra bulbs and plants this fall and see what you can get in return from your neighbors. More details to come.

As you can see, the Beautification Committee has been very active in seeking out and responding to suggestions put forth the by residents on ways to make Lomond an attractive and enjoyable place to live for all our residents. If you have any suggestions or questions for our committee on these or other projects, or you would like to volunteer, please contact Dena Smith via e-mail at denasm@yahoo.com. We'd love to hear from you.

Rubbish Collection

Several residents voiced concerns over rubbish that is left on tree lawns for extended periods of time. Shaker Heights Public Works Department picks up almost all rubbish in the backyard of homes. There is rarely a reason for placing rubbish on the tree lawn. Special collections of large

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items are offered by the city if you call in a request to Public Works. After making the request, instructions will be given for its proper placement. If you are a neighbor concerned about a regular offender you can call Public Works at 491-1490 to report the problem. Residents in violation will be given 7 days to correct the violation or the city will remove the rubbish and charge the homeowner with the cost of its removal.

Good Lomond Neighbor

I was in the middle of shoveling the walk to my front porch when a woman stopped her car and asked me if I needed help. Of course, I was disturbed that someone thought I was old enough to need help, but I was also pleasantly surprised that someone would go out of her way to offer help. I asked the woman her name, and she answered Kim Morgan. I remembered her name from having delivered a newsletter to her last fall. It's not often that people go out of their way to offer help to others, so I wanted to publicly thank Kim for her kindness. She is indeed a good Lomond neighbor.
— Nora Kancelbaum

Safety Committee

Representatives of the Shaker Heights Police Department will be at the March 13 meeting of the Lomond Association to



discuss crime in the Lomond area and answer questions about home and personal safety. Although Lomond residents have been concerned about the recent attack in Ludlow the Shaker Heights Police Department reports that Lomond has been quiet over the past few months. Incidences of burglary, auto theft, robbery, assaults, and approaches on the street have all been low.

As Spring approaches Gerry Jankowski, Crime Prevention Officer for Shaker Heights, says that residents should take this opportunity to remember the "Big 3" of crime prevention: lights, locks and shrubbery. Keeping your home and yard well-lit; having and using good locks on your house, garage, and belongings; and keeping shrubs and bushes trimmed back so they can't be used as hiding places really make a difference, according to Officer Jankowski. He also encourages residents to be alert and to call the police if they see suspicious people, cars, or activity in the neighborhood. Non-emergency calls can be made to the police at 216-491-1220. Anonymous reports can be made by calling the Safe City Hotline at 216-295-3434.

"We want them to do it, that's what we like to see. It reduces crime," Officer Jankowski says. A full list of safety tips can be found on the Shaker

Heights City Services Health & Safety website: <http://www.shakeronline.com/services/safety/CrimePrevention.asp> — Linda Marie Wetzel

Social Committee

Spaghetti dinner fundraiser planned for Ogbuji Family



A spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the Ogbuji Family is planned for April 27, 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. at the St. Dominic Bishop Amos Center cafeteria. The Social Committee will support Jessica Gupta in the planning of this event and work with either the Sussex Association or Lomond PTO on the event. Expenses are planned at \$200 max, with most items hopefully being donated. Expected income of about \$2,000-\$5,000 will be donated to help the family or memorialize the girls. Volunteers of about 30-50 (12 tasks, multiple shifts) are needed, along with extra marketing. The committee is soliciting donations of supplies.



This wild turkey was spotted in the Lomond neighborhood by Dave Halley as it flew up to his neighbor's garage roof. "WGRP was wrong; turkeys can fly", commented Dave.

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Youth Committee

Shaker Youth Consortium— Just the Beginning



Hello everyone, my name is Jessica Gupta and at a recent meeting of neighborhood association reps, it was decided that the community needed to begin working together in a collaborative way to address the needs of our youth. It is my understanding that different groups are pressing forward with different efforts and it would be the goal of this group to pull all of these groups together into one cohesive unit. I volunteered to take the lead and thus am organizing the “Shaker Youth Consortium”, setting out to begin a community-wide discussion about planning, advocacy and implementation of youth-driven and youth-focused programming for Shaker chil-

dren. My passion for these efforts crystallized about a year ago when I worked within a group during graduate school to begin looking at the lack of affordable/accessible after school activities for older youth in Shaker. This research, beginning with our rough draft and culminating with our final report and a program design model that could be replicated for our youth, will all be available at <http://lomondonline.com/youth/> within the next couple of weeks. I have also emailed it out to several folks in the community, let me know if you want it and I’ll be happy to send it to you.

In order to begin this process of addressing the needs of our youth, which will inevitably have positive impacts on many other community priorities, I would like to have a kick-off meeting with as many community

leaders with youth interests as possible. Thus far, my email list for this group stands at 20 contacts. Please feel free to look through the list and let me know of anyone I missed who should be part of this.

I am planning to hold the first meeting on Thursday, March 19th, 7-8:30PM at the Shaker Main Library. Note that the specific room assignment will be posted near the main entrance circulation desk. Please feel free to send me agenda items and I will organize an agenda as soon as I can. I expect that the first meeting will mostly consist of introductions, what is available for youth right now, and what efforts are currently underway. Thanks so much and I hope that you will become involved so that we can have a collective voice for our kids.
—Jessica Gupta, LSW

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News in Lomond

Lomond Association officers win Shaker's MLK award

Our President and Vice-President won the City of Shaker Heights Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Human Relations! They received the award on Monday, January 28, 2008. This is an honor for the whole Association and everyone who has worked so hard for more than a year to make this Community Association great. The City's press release reads as follows . . .

Shaker Heights MLK, Jr. Human Relations & Special Awards & Commemoration 40th Anniversary January 11, 2008: The Shaker Heights Human Relations Commission has chosen recipients for its 2008 Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Human Relations: Lomond Community Association officers Brian Yusko, president, and Bryan Moore, vice president. The awards presentation was held on January 28 at the Shaker Community Building. The Human Relations award is given annually to individuals or groups whose actions during the previous year exemplify Dr. King's values of compassion, humility and service. The Commission seeks



Bryan Moore
Lomond Association
Vice President

nominees who have made a significant contribution through volunteerism and community service, helping others and building community in Shaker Heights. Yusko and Moore were chosen in recognition of their leadership in the revitalization of the Lomond Community Association, an effort joined and achieved by dozens of residents. The two men demonstrated vigorous and sustained commitment to the Association's resurgence and to its ongoing role of building community. As a team, Yusko and Moore encouraged participation and cooperation among the neighborhood's diverse population.

Patience and the Porsche Takes Top Book Honors at the LA Organizing Awards

The following is a news release regarding one of our Lomond neighbors, Valentina Sgro, and the book award she recently won. Congratulations, Valentina!

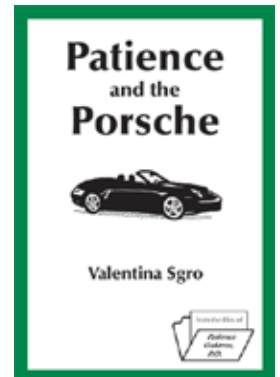


LOS ANGELES, CA (February 2, 2008) — The red carpet was out Friday night at the Luxe Hotel Sunset Boulevard for the third annual Los Angeles Organizing Awards. The Awards are a celebration and culmination of National Get Organized

Month, and are presented by the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO-LA). Sherri Shepherd, co-host of ABC-TV's "The View," emceed the event, entertaining and enlightening the audience with stories of her experiences using the services of a professional organizer.

The 2008 Best Organizing Book honor went to Patience and the Porsche

(2007, Green Square Publishing). Accepting the award, author Valentina Sgro noted that her book is the first novel about a professional organizer that was written by a professional organizer. "In writing this story, I wanted to raise public awareness of the organizing industry," she said. "I hope winning this award will help further that mission."



Awards were presented in 18 other categories. Clutter expert and organizational consultant Peter Walsh flew in from an on-location shoot to receive a Special Recognition Award for his work on the "Inside the Lives of Hoarders" two-part feature for The Oprah Winfrey Show. Other industry leaders in attendance included NAPO

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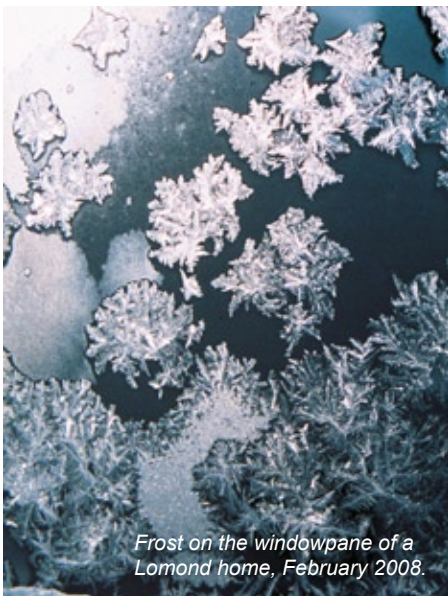
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President Standolyn Robertson and National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization President Lynne Johnson. NAPO-LA President John Trosko and Past President Chris McKenry hosted an after-party.

For more information contact: Valentina Sgro, Green Square Publishing, 216-283-2309, val@reallyorganized.com.



Frost on the windowpane of a Lomond home, February 2008.

Miscellaneous

Free Home Security Surveys

The Crime Prevention Bureau of the Shaker Heights Police Department is available for free home security inspections. A member of the unit will inspect your home, identify possible areas of concern, and offer recommen-

dations for improvement. Appointments can be made by calling 216-491-1230.

Girls Softball League

League play begins June 7, 2008. Instructional clinics are included with registration:

- PITCHING / CATCHING 9-11 am February 23 at Shaker Middle School (West Gym)
- PITCHING / FIELDING 9-11 am March 8 at Shaker Middle School (West Gym)

Late Registration: RESIDENT: \$90, NON-RESIDENT: \$110. For more information call 216-491-2599 or 216-491-3144.

Spring Break Camps

OPEN PLAY for grades 7-9, from March 31-April 4, 5-8 PM at the Shaker Heights Middle School, East Gym. Basketball skills, drills and instructional games. RES:\$30/WEEK For more information, call (216) 491-2599. TO REGISTER CALL (216) 491-1295.

Catalog Choice

Catalog Choice is a newer Web site that allows you to opt out of specific catalogs. It had a nice story on the Today show recently. There is a huge list of catalogs on the site. We could cut down on a lot of paper waste if we all stopped getting mail

we don't look at. Many of my friends and I use it. www.catalogchoice.com. Easy to use with or without catalog customer numbers. Please consider adding this "green" idea.

— Karen Nordstrom, Marcie Carrier

Yoga classes available in our neighborhood

Yoga for Wellness, Inc., is offering yoga classes and workshops conducted by trained instructor, Amit Kumar, Ph.D. Beginner's course is \$100 for 7 weeks. Classes are once a week on Sundays, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Family discounts are available. Classes begin February 24, 2008. Studio address is 3582 Winchell Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44122. Register today at 216-288-8340 or e-mail to: yogaforwellness53@yahoo.com Recommended by Lomond residents.

Warrensville/Van Aken Redesign Workshops

The third and final public workshop about the redesign of Warrensville/Van Aken was February 27 at the Shaker Community Building, 3450 Lee Road, at 7 p.m. See the results of previous resident input and learn about next steps. A summary of the second workshop is available on the City Web site:

<http://www.shakeronline.com/dept/planning/Warrensville-VanAkenTransitionOrientedDevelopment.asp>

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Concert benefit for Ludlow Community Association

“In Concert with Ludlow” will be held on March 9 from 4-6 p.m. at Shaker Heights High School, 15911 Aldersyde Drive. Performances will include Verlezza Dance, Shaker and Cleveland student groups, and a dramatic reading of “America the Beautiful.”

Proceeds will enable the Ludlow Community Association to enhance youth programs and foster inter-community collaboration in its surrounding area. Tickets are \$10, \$25, \$50, or \$100 (children 10 and under are free). To purchase tickets or make a contribution, visit www.shakerartscouncil.org/InConcertwith-Ludlow.

Lomond Association website and newsletter soliciting neighborhood photos from residents

Got a photo of your favorite house, a picture of your favorite moment, snapshots of laughing kids, friendly neighbors or gorgeous landscaping? Please share your vision of the suburban realm we call Lomond. Send a photo and as much of the who, what, when, where and how as you can to lomond.association@gmail.com. We’ll try to include it on our website and/or in our newsletters.

—Mark Zetzer

Upcoming Events

- Beautification Committee Meeting – 1st Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m. – 18318 Lomond Blvd.
- Street Captains’ Meeting – Wednesday, March 5, 7 p.m. – Shaker Community Center
- General Meeting – Thursday, March 13, 7 p.m. at Lomond School auditorium – Topic: Safety
- General Meeting – Thursday, April 10, 7 p.m. at Lomond School auditorium – Topic: Youth

- Ogbuji Family Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – Sunday, April 27, 12 noon-4 p.m. at St. Dominic Bishop Amos Center cafeteria.
- General Meeting – Thursday, May 8, 7 p.m. at Lomond School auditorium – Topic: Community Relations
- General Meeting – Thursday, June 12, 7 p.m. at Lomond School auditorium – Topic: Community Programs



Winter sunrise over the Lomond neighborhood, January 2008.

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