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Your Neighborhood Historical Society

Newsletter January 2015

Number XXI

The Altrui Club • Lost Chicago Corners

10-Year Anniversary of this Newsletter

The Northwest Chicago Historical Society, originally called the "Jefferson Park Historical Society," started out as a committee of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association about 12 years ago. A dedicated group of residents were not only interested in the area's heritage but wanted to preserve important artifacts, especially those old photographs kept in a box in an attic or basement that no one had touched for decades.

The society's meetings were well attended, and residents told colorful stories about the neighborhood's past and brought in their old photos, documents and maps. The meetings were often held in historic buildings, including the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park and the former Gateway Theatre at the Copernicus Center. Because of the society's efforts, we know more about the community's founders, such as Henry Esdohr, whose house sits in Jefferson Memorial Park. The society also brought to life an interesting story on how political corruption may have played a role in Jefferson Park being incorporated into the City of Chicago. How many nickelodeons were in Jefferson Park? The society answered that question by bringing in guest speakers who were experts on Chicago's theater history.

The society eventually became its own nonprofit organization and later expanded its area of interest to the entire Northwest Side of Chicago. One of the society's more recent highlights occurred when it secured the first public tour of the Mayfair Pumping Station since security concerns closed it off to the public after Sept. 11, 2001. The society also partnered with the Jefferson Memorial Park Advisory Council to post an historical marker outside the Esdohr House.

Nadig Newspapers is proud to have covered many of the society's meetings and to have had a close relationship with the society. The history of the Northwest Side is brought to life on the front page of our newspapers many times a year thanks to the photos supplied by the society. For the past 10 years the society 's researcher, Frank Suerth, has published a professional looking newsletter filled with great stories and photos. The community should be proud of the society's accomplishments. - Brian Nadig

Mission Statement:

As the Northwest Chicago Historical Society, our mission is to educate others about the history of the Northwest neighborhoods of Chicago. We will accomplish this through discussion at meetings, public tours and events, and dissemination of historical documents and photos though publications. Additionally, we desire to collaborate with others in the community to continue to maintain and preserve the history of our collective neighborhoods. By linking the past with the present and the future, we will provide awareness and create appreciation for our place in Chicago's and Illinois' history.

The Northwest Chicago Historical Society

Susanna Ernst **President:** (773) 725-5774 **Vice-president:** Dan Pogorzelski (773) 350-9414

Gail Weber Treasurer: **Recording Secretary:** Robert Bank

Board of Directors:

Frank Suerth Marketing Director (773) 725-5774

Marilyn Ebenstein **Activities Director**

Del Norwood Administrative Director Communications Director Janet Taylor

Walt Kowalczyk Advertising Director Chuck Brown Membership Director

Public Relations Director Dory Ahearn

Keep track of what is happening at the Northwest Chicago Historical Society (It's FREE) Join our Meet-up Group

www.meetup.com/The-Northwest-Chicago-History-Meetup-Group/

NW Chicago Historical Society

Membership:

P. O. Box 30067

\$15.00 per calendar year

Chicago, IL 60630

\$10.00 for 65 years old and over

e-mail: nwchicagohistory@sbcglobal.net

Website: nwchicagohistory.org

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Letters

Letters may have been edited for clarity and space

Can you kindly give the name of a popular restaurant that existed on the NW side before 1940? I want to refer to it in a historic novel I am writing.

I grew up in Chicago and lived near Logan Sq. from 1931 to 1940 but was too young to remember any places like that.

Thanks.

Jack Margolis - Fort Collins, CO

Lenard's Polish Restaurant at 1166 Milwaukee Avenue with complete Chicken Dinner for 75¢. Their specialty was Fillet a la Cracow - Polish pastry. It was in business in the 1930's & 1940's. - NWCHS

Thank you very much for having me talk before the Northwest Chicago Historical Society. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many of your members and others interested in learning more about the history of the Prairie State. You have my best wishes for continued success with your organization.

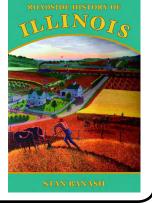
Stan "Tex" Banash - Norwood Park, IL

Thank You!

Stan Banash for sharing your knowledge on the Roadside Hisory of Illinois at one of the Northwest Chicago Historical Society's meetings. If you missed the meeting or want to learn more about

Illinois' roadside history, you purchase can Stans's book Roadside History of Illinois.





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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening Mass 4:30pm

> Sunday Masses 8:30am - 10:30am

Monday-Saturday Morning Mass 7:30am Wednesday, School Mass 8:15am During the School Year Holy Day Masses As Announced

Rosary M-F after the 7:30am Mass

Novena To Our Lady of Perpetual Help Tuesday 7:00pm in the Upper Church

1st Friday Adoration Upper Church 8:00am-5:00pm 1st Saturday Devotion Lower Church 10:00am-3:30pm

Holy Hour Devotion
First Sunday of month after the 10:30 am Mass

Our Lady of Victory

A Parish Community in the Roman Catholic Tradition

Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether visitors, neighbors, long-time residents, or newly arrived in the Neighborhood.

Our parish family extends an invitation to all to join us as we celebrate the Sunday Eucharistic at the Lord's Table.

Our Lady of Victory offers a diverse group of ministries and organizations to fill the varied interests of our 2,500 individual members.

Our Lady of Victory School is open to all regardless of religious affiliation. Our emphasis is, of course, in the Roman Catholic Tradition. This award winning school has room for 500 students from Pre-K through 8th Grade.

Our Lady of Victory also supports a vital Religious Education Center for all ages. From three and four year-olds to seniors, we have a Religious Education for all.

Leisure time organizations are the heartbeat of Our Lady of Victory, from Scouting for boys and girls of all ages, sport activities, to our Mothers' Club, Parish Men's Club, Teen Club and including our very active Music Ministry with Chamber Choirs, Adult, Teen and special Choirs.

We welcome you to join with us in our celebration of God's Word.

Reverend Robert Fedek, Pastor

4.

Letters

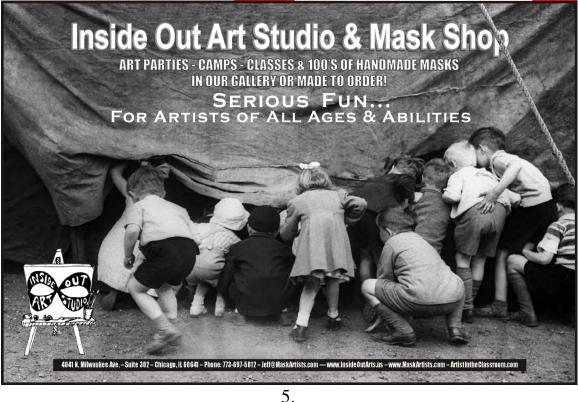
Can you tell me the name of the Polynesian restaurant on Milwaukee Ave in Jefferson Park in the 1970's. There is a car dealership there. It was north of Foster or Devon on Milwaukee. I want to say it was the Hawaiian Village.

Thank you,

Tom

It was Shanghai Lil's and it was north of the old Gateway car dealership. They had a floorshow and served umbrella drinks with the buffet. They would pick people from the crowd and bring them onstage to dance with the girls. It was torn down and replaced by condos. - NWCHS





GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS

Great neighborhoods don't just happen. Great neighborhoods rely on active participation from new families as well as life-long residents. Great neighborhoods depend upon – and deserve – strong and active representation at City Hall to build upon the hard work happening in the neighborhood. Great neighborhoods look to elected officials to tackle the day-to-day issues that impact quality of life: environment, traffic, zoning, businesses development, family services. What are your concerns? What are your plans? Let's get together to discuss them – in your home, with your neighbors. Call me at 773-609-4545 to arrange a get-together. I welcome the opportunity to meet you!



The Altrui Club

By Frank Suerth

The Altrui Club was a dynamic women's organization that spanned more than 70 years in the Jefferson Park neighborhood of Chicago. This club was a social, civil, educational and philanthropic association, started at a time when women could not run for political office or vote for that matter, this was an organized society on their terms.

The Altrui Club was organized in 1898 and the same year they joined the Illinois State Federation of Women's Clubs. They picked their club colors, "Red and White" and their club flower, "Red Carnation" and started out small with only 24 members the first year and paid \$1.00 for their dues.

Why they picked the name Altrui is not known but the word Altruism does mean, "A concern for the welfare of others; other cultures and religions with feelings of duty and loyalty with an ethical doctrine that individuals are morally obliged to benefit others. This definition most certainly does describe this club.

Founding Officers:

President May K. Holman
Vice-President Marie Weber
Secretary Marie Lawrence
Treasurer Cynthia Young

Founding Directors:

Anna T. Graham, Elizabeth L. Roberts and Lela W. Graham

Founding Members:

Ida C. Caneron – Mrs. Archibald Caneron – 19 Gross St. (4920 Lester Ave.)

Lois E. Carpenter – Miss. Lois E. Carpenter – Milwaukee Ave.

Rose Dinse – Mrs. Paul Dinse – 1893 W. Carmen Ave. (Aprox. 5244 Carmen Ave.)

Celia H. Eldred – Mrs. Fred E. Eldred – 1941 Norwood Park Ave. (4905 Northwest Highway)

Mary R. Farnsworth – Mrs. Chas E. Farnsworth – 4112 Milwaukee Ave. (4571 Milwaukee Ave.)

Alice Goodman – Mrs. Alice Goodman – 1932 Short Place (5325 Ainslie)

Lina Glasgow – Mrs. A. M. Glassgow – 43 Higgins Road (5442 Higgins)

Emma E. Graham – Mrs. Arthur S. Graham – 28 Goodman St. (5622 Goodman St.)

Anna T. Graham – Mrs. John G. Graham – Roberts Court (Giddings St just east of Long and west of Milwaukee)

Lela W. Graham – Miss Lela W. Graham – 28 Goodman St. (5622 Goodman St.)

Maude M. Graham – Miss Maude M. Graham – 28 Goodman St. (5622 Goodman St.)

Louisa W. Gray – Mrs. Wm P. Gray – W. Carmen, Milwaukee Ave.

May K. Holmes – Mrs. Albert W. Holmes – 1866 W. Carmen Ave. (5220 W. Carmen Ave.)

Nancy D. Lawrence – Mrs. Edward Lawrence – 1886 Winona St. (5237 Winona St.)

Alice Lawrence - Miss Alice Lawrence - 1886 Winona St. (5237 Winona St.)

Marie Lawrence – Miss Marie Lawrence – 1886 Winona St. (5237 Winona St.)

Elizabeth Lawrence – Miss Elizabeth Lawrence – 1886 Winona St. (5237 Winona St.)

Annie C. Peet – Mrs. R. Emmett Peet – 16 Eastman St. (5459 Edmunds St.)

Lela M. Peet – Miss Lela M. Peet – 16 Eastman St. (5459 Edmunds St.)

Elizabeth L. Roberts – Mrs. Clarke Roberts – 4098 Milwaukee Ave. (4564 Milwaukee Ave.)

Marie Weber – Mrs. Ewald Weber – 4276 Milwaukee Ave. (4808 Milwaukee Ave.)

Mimie Wulff – Miss Mamie Wulff – 4286 Milwaukee (4822 Milwaukee Ave.)

Cynthia Young – Mrs. Oscar Young – 1881 W. Winnemac St. (5232 W. Winnemac Ave.)

(Denotes present day addresses)

These 24 members lived within 1/2-mile radius of the heart of Jefferson Park, an easy walk to each other's homes. Early meetings were mostly hosted in members homes. One such meeting was described in a neighborhood newspaper in December of 1903.

Jefferson Park Altrui

The history of flags of various nations proved to be a very interesting evening for the members of Altrui Club who met at the home of Mrs. A. S. Graham* Thursday December 10.

Mrs. Graham pressented a paper pertained to the flags of America and France, which was followed by a paper by Mrs. Hilma Almbery relating to the flags of Denmark, Germany, Sweden and Norway.

The English, Irish, and Scottish flags were given their due attention by Mrs. Cynthia E. Young.

The papers were interspersed with music, Miss Marie Lawrence and Miss Helen Davidson singing the U.S. national song. The French national song was rendered by Miss Helen Davidson, and Mrs. Almberg favored the company with the Swedish national song. The Austrian national song was rendered by Miss Persis E. Young, and Mrs. Bessie Lemke gave the piano rendering of "The Watch of Rhine."





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The musical composer for the evening was "Gounod" by Mrs. Mary R. Farnsworth.

The home was decorated very prettily with flags, and each one of the guests was presented with a flag of some nation.

After the delicious coffee and cake, for which the ladies of the Graham household are so justly noted, had been served, Mrs. Matthews of Avondale favored the company with several exceptionally fine readings.

The pleasure of the evening was still further enhanced by the announcement that the next meeting, which is to be held at the home of Mrs. E. R. Lawrence, Saturday, December 26, will have the added attraction to the regular program of the presence of Mrs. Carrie Jacobs Bond, who will favor the company with original reading.

* To view pictures of the Graham house both exterior and interior, along with pictures of the Graham girls, Olive, Lela, Mabel and Maud Graham. See January, 2007 Newsletter number V – The Graham's of Goodman Street, available for a free pdf download on our website: nwchicagohistory.org/newsletters.html

By 1899, the club had grown to 37 members with 45 members in 1900. In 1901 with 48 members we see members joining from outside the Jefferson park area. Hilma Almberg and Mina Thorsen were from Forest Glen, Mamie W. Crocker from Avondale, Mary Ayer Rich from Norwood Park and Freda B. Rudnick from Milwaukee and Armitage.

In 1902 with 58 Members and still meeting in member's homes it could get crowded so a few meetings were hold in the Jefferson Club House which was located on the northwest corner of Giddings Street and Long Avenue. The year 1903 found the club with 72 members with one Elizabeth L. Bassett from Clifton

Park in Cleveland, Ohio. The Altrui Club chorus was also started this year with 23 members, 1904 found the Altrui Club with 77 members, now too large to meet at member's houses, all meeting were held at the Jefferson Club House with the exception of one meeting held at the Jefferson Park Congregational Church. In 1905 the club joined the Municipal Art League.

In 1906, we find the club with many more Committees; Social, Music, Philanthropic, Auditing, Press, Vacation Schools, Program, District Educational, Civic and Delegates to the State Federation. All these Committees had their own chairman and members on the Committee.

By 1910, membership has grown to 98 and the Committees had expanded to include; Library and Flower with delegates for the Juvenile Protective Association and Illinois Industrial Home For Girls.

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- Gracie Allen



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Pastor: Reverend Gayle Tucker

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Treasures Report – 1910

Expenditures

Contribution to Industrial School for Girls	\$ 5.00
Flowers	22.00
Speakers' Transportation	4.00
Postage	4.52
Spoons	4.70
Expenses for Passion Play	1.45
Delegates to Luncheon at Woman's Club	0.50
Illinois Industrial School for Girls	30.00
Calendars and Membership Cards	28.50
Piano Tuning	2.50
Expenses Reception at Church – Sept. 26, 1910	4.47
Coffee Boiler	2.65
Use of Church for two meetings	4.00
Delegate to I. F. W. C Expenses	10.00
Federation Dues	4.00
Advanced Altrui Club Chorus	7.38
Press Committee	1.17
Total Expenses	137.19

Receipts

May 17, 1910 Cash on hand	41.42	
Dues from Members	148.50	
Calendars	0.40	
From Altrui Club Chorus: Proceeds from Fall Entertainment	25.00	
Balance from District Meeting	1.51	
Guest Fees	1.25	Nellie Groenier, Treasurer
Philanthropic Committee	1.10	May C Schmook
Total Receipts	219.18	Ethel Lynn Carr
Expenses	137.19	
Balance	81.99	



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The Masonic Hall in Jefferson Park was used for some meetings in 1912. The dues were \$1.50 per year for each of the 125 members and guests were charged 25ϕ .

Around 1918, meetings were held at the Congregational Church, Beaubien School and the Jefferson Park Masonic Temple. Some dances were also held at the Jefferson Park Masonic Temple with no doubt that some members had ties with both the Masons and the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park. When the new Jefferson Park fieldhouse was built after 1930 most meetings of the club were held there but they still used the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park at times. The Wilson Park fieldhouse was also a future site for meetings.

The Altrui Club was found still going strong in 1938 under the leadership of:

Mrs. Frank Maresh President

Mrs. Milton Meyer First Vice-President
Mrs. Charles Boehm Second Vice-President
Mrs. Philip Hecksel Recording Secretary
Mrs. Herbert Anderson Corresponding Secretary

Mrs. Harry Greene Treasurer

Directors for One Year

Mrs. Wm. Blenke – Mrs. A. G. Anderson – Mrs. Wm. Meyers

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Altrui Membership List 1938 Active Members

Anderson, Edith (Mrs. Herbert G.) 5427 Montrose Avenue	1936	Croker, Eleanor (Mrs. Harry) 5703 Leland Avenue	1920
Anderson, Harriet (Miss Harriet)	1938	Dehli, Edith (Mrs. Louis)	1928
4835 Warner Avenue	1730	4906 St. Anthony's Court	1,20
Anderson, Mamie V. (Mrs. A. G.)	1927	Derx, Agnes (Mrs. Earl)	1936
4835 Warner Avenue	1527	5536 N. Mango Avenue	1,00
Anderson, Vivian V. (Miss Vivian V.)	1926	Deyo, Pearl (Mrs. Samuel)	1938
4835 Warner Avenue	1,20	5442 Agatite Avenue	
Appleton, Henrietta (Mrs. Charles A.)	1918	Diedesch, Ida (Mrs. Henry H.)	1912
3732 N. Lawndale Avenue	1,710	5100 Windsor Avenue	
Arnold, Betty (Mrs. P. W.)	1938	Dinse, Mabel W. (Mrs. Henry)	1903
4233 N. Keystone Avenue	1730	5361 Giddings Street	
Barteik, Maud E. (Mrs. William C.)	1923	Drath, Elsie T. (Mrs. Edwin A.)	1926
4739 London Avenue	1,23	5434 Hutchinson Street	
Beals, Florence (Mrs. Harry)	1920	Du Breuil, Marian M. (Mrs. Henry T.)	1929
4937 Cuyler Avenue	1,20	5547 Giddings Street	
Bennett, Esther F. (Miss Esther F.)	1912	Dunn, Jennie (Mrs. John)	1936
5340 Windsor Avenue	1712	4911 Carman Avenue	
Bentley, Josephine (Mrs. James E.)	1929	Dyer, Beatrice Thalia (Miss Beatrice Thalia) 1938
4448 N. California Avenue	1,2,	1411 Gregory Avenue, Wilmette	*
Benzo, Alma (Mrs. Frederick)	1923	Drer, Phoebe (Dr. Phoebe)	1925
5243 Cullom Avenue	1,23	1411 Gregory Avenue, Wilmette	
Bernhardt, Agnes C. (Miss Agnes C.)	1912	Dyer, Roberta Coldren (Miss Roberta Coldren	
5039 N. Long Avenue	1712	1411 Gregory Avenue, Wilmette	
Bernhardt, Martha (Mrs. Irvin)	1932	Edler, Minnie (Mrs. Otto)	1938
5548 Leland Avenue	1,02	5456 Higgins	
Bischoff, Matilda (Mrs. Conrad H.)	1912	Elrod, Rena (Mrs. Allen M.)	1914
5643 Leland Avenu	1712	4852 Pensacola Avenue	
Blenke, Eleanor H. (Mrs. William)	1929	Eshelman, Emma L. (Mrs. James C.)	1912
5426 Windsor Avenue	1,2,	5005 Wilson Avenue	
Boehm, Emma (Miss Emma)	1927	Eteau, Mildred (Mrs. Earl W.)	1923
3839 N. Avers Avenue	1,2,	131 So. Harvey Ave., Oak Park	
Boehm, Rose (Mrs. Charles G.)	1923	Even, Bertha (Miss Bertha)	1917
3638 N. Keeler Avenue	1,20	5140 Hutchinson Street	
Bonde, Etta (Mrs. Arthur)	1935	Finnegan, Margaret L. (Miss Margaret L.)	1909
6151 Nassau Street		4829 Lipps Avenue	
Bonnesen, Carolyn E. (Miss Carolyn E.)	1911	Fletcher, Grace P. (Mrs. Marshall J.)	1904
5271 Windsor Avenue		5408 Central Avenue	
Borgmeier, Eleanor (Miss Eleanor)	1935	Gardner, Olive Louise (Miss Olive Louise)	1938
5100 Long Avenue		1925 Warner Avenue	
Borgmeier, Wilhelmia (Mrs. W. K.)	1936	Gebel, Elsie (Mrs. John A.)	1938
5100 Long Avenue		6737 Oketo Avenue	
Borman, Alma (Mrs. Charles)	1936	Genin, Minnie A. (Mrs. Alfred J.)	1928
4749 N. Long Avenue		5509 Higgins Avenue	
Brandt, Amelia (Mrs. Joseph)	1907	Godin, Noreen (Mrs. William)	1936
5245 Strong Street		4028 N. Central Avenue	
Counter, Maude E. (Mrs. Albert E.)	1912	Granger, Merle (Mrs. W.)	1936
4923 Pensacola Avenue		5415 Giddings Street	
Cox, Ella (Mrs. Edward V.)	1928	Green, Bertha K. (Mrs. Harry C.)	1918
1313 Vine Avenue, Park Ridge		5149 Montrose Avenue	
Cripe, Lillian (Mrs. A. S.)	1938	Groenier, Margaret K. (Mrs. John)	1919
5438 Agatite Avenue		4706 N. Laramie Avenue	
Crombie, Margaret (Mrs. Richard V.)	1918	Groenier, Nellie P. (Mrs. August)	1907
4440 N. LaVergne Avenue		5266 Leland Avenue	
C		13.	



Past presidents of the Altrui Women's club will present a surprise program on Tuesday evening at 8:15 o'clock at the Jefferson Park fieldhouse. They are, left to right, seated: Mrs Ewald Webber, Mrs. Cady K. Wright, Miss Margaret Finnigan, Mrs. Allen M. Elrod, Mrs. Howard G. Smith. Standing: Mrs. Alfred G. Cook, Mrs. Murray A. Henderson. Mrs. Philip J. Barry, Mrs. Edward Marke, Mrs. Ole N. Jensen, and Mrs. James C. Moreland, and in the inset is Mrs. Henry Diedesch.

Photos and text from local newspaper articles from the 1950s Courtesy of Ron Ernst



Past presidents of the Altrui Club. From left to right: Mrs. James C. Moreland (1935 to 1937), Mrs. O. N. Jensen (1933 to 1935), Mrs. William Hohlen (current president), Mrs. John Groenier (1945 to 1947), Mrs. Edward Marke (1931 to 1933), Mrs. Ed Schoessling (1947 to 1949), Mrs. Frank Maresh (1937 to 1939), Mrs. Harry Croker (1943 to 1945), Mrs. Howard Smith (1921 to 1923). They are shown wearing gowns they wore during their terms as president. Mrs. Smith is holding a lantern. Photo taken in the Wilson Park fieldhouse in February of 1956.

Honor Altrui Past Prexies

Mrs. Alfred Borresen, membership chairman for the Altrui club, scheduled her second party of the year for prospective members for Thursday of this week in Wilson Park fieldhouse, 4630 Milwaukee, at 8 p.m. Altrui club is one of the oldest women's clubs on the northwest side, having founded in 1898. It is also one of the few women's clubs in the Seventh District which holds its meetings in the evening.

Mrs. Borresen has contacted all the past presidents of the club who still live in or near Chicago, asking them to tell the members and their guests some of the highlights of their terms in office. If Mrs. Ewald Weber, who was president in 1905-06, is able to come in from her home in Roselle, Ill., she will have many amusing stories to tell. "One that seems incredible now is about the members at the time always carrying lanterns with them when they went to meetings to light their way," Mrs. Borresen said.

Altrui Club Fetes Mrs. Weber, Mrs. H. Diedesch

Altrui club's annual spring luncheon was held on Saturday at the Tally-Ho tearoom in Park Ridge. Special honored guest were Mrs. Ewald Weber, a long-time resident of Jefferson Park, now of Roselle, and Mrs. Henry Diedesen, 5100 Windsor, who is also a Jeffersonian of many years. Mrs. R. Alfred Borresen, reelected president of Altrui club, was also present. Mrs. Weber is now residing at the home of her daughter, and is looking forward to the celebration of her 90th birthday on Aug. 10th. She is Altrui club's only living charter member. Mrs. Diedesch is an honorary director of Altrui club, having been a member of the board of directors for 43 years.

Hallarn, Martha (Mrs. Willian)	1918
5274 Windsor Avenue Hansen, Elsie (Mrs. Leslie)	1934
5529 Farragut Avenue	
Hecksel, Clara (Mrs. Philip) 6735 Oketo	1935
Henderson, Anna (Mrs. Murray A.) 4349 N. Long Avenue	1907
Hopper, Cora (Mrs. Ira O.)	1936
5216 Winnemac Avenue	1,00
Howes, Clare (Mrs. Edwin A.)	1912
5340 Windsor Avenue	
Hueckstaedt, Viola (Mrs. Henry) 5225 Lind Avenue	1934
Hunter, Bernice (Mrs. Wm. B.)	1938
4141 Cornelia Avenue	
Huyck, Luva C. (Mrs. Edwin)	1899
5426 Windsor Avenue	
Jacques, Clara (Mrs. George)	1917
Ingleside Station, Long Lake, Ill	
Jensen, Christine (Mrs. Ole N.)	1921
5357 Giddings Street	
Johnson, Rose (Mrs. David H.)	1938
4806 Linder Avenue	
Johnson, Sarah A. (Miss Sarah A.)	1919
3955 N. Lamon Avenue	
Jost, Dorothy (Mrs. Marshall)	1936
1033 Lindale Ave. Drexel Hill, Pl	
Kaczanowshi, May (Miss May)	1938
5259 Argyle Avenue	1750
Kaczanowski, Sophie (Mrs. Julian)	1918
5259 Argyle Avenue	1310
Kirchhoff, Christine (Mrs. Christine)	1920
4705 Milwaukee Avenue	1,20
Kirchhoff, Gertrude (Mrs. George F.)	1935
4721 Milwaukee Avenue	
Koehler, Agnes (Mrs. Agnes V.)	1938
500 N. St. Louis Avenue	1004
Kuhl, Edna (Mrs. Ray)	1936
5145 N. La Crosse Avenue	1020
Lofgren, Lucille (Mrs. Iver)	1938
5327 Sunnyside Avenue	1021
Lucksinger, Anna (Mrs. Charles A.)	1921
5639 Ainslie Street	1001
Luedtke, Caroline (Mrs. Charles)	1934
5524 Wilson Avenue	400=
Madison, Helen (Miss Helen)	1937
3933 Lowell Avenue	1016
Maresh, Jean M. (Mrs. Frank)	1916
5840 W. Circle Avenue	1021
Marke, Anna M. (Mrs. Edward J.) 4950 N. Lockwood Avenue	1921
Malloy, Mildred (Mrs. Frank)	
5543 Windsor Avenue	
Markham, Feryne (Miss Feryne)	1930
3044 Logan Boulevard	
May, Elizabeth (Mrs. John V.)	1929
4559 Milwaukee Avenue	16.
	1().

McBride, Jane (Mrs. John)	1938
5455 Sunnyside Avenue	
McBride, Marguerite (Miss Marguerite)	1938
711 Ashland Avenue, River For	est
McCabe, Helen (Mrs. Leland J.)	1927
1313 Vine Avenue, Park Ridge,	Ill
Mc Farland, Sally (Mrs. L. D.)	1938
4349 No. Long Avenue	
McKeown, Irene (Miss Irene M.)	1933
5459 Windsor Avenue	
Mendelsohn, Mayme (Mrs. Paul A.)	1938
5519 W. Roscoe	
Meyers Emma (Mrs. William)	1916
5440 Gale Street	
Meyer, Maybelle (Mrs. Milton H. G.)	1930
5352 Barry Avenue	
Moisley, Luella (Miss Luella)	1903
5423 Gale Street	
Moreen, Marie (Mrs. Arthur)	1932
Plum Grove Road, Palatine, Ill	
Moreland, Izora (Mrs. James C.)	1929
5909 N. Mason Avenue	
Nelson, Helga (Mrs. Edward)	1920
5474 Gettysburg Avenue	
Nyberg, Rose (Mrs. Frank)	1926
5516 Marmora Avenue	



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Pabst, Hulda (Mrs. Hulda)	1929
Los Angles, California	
Parker, Christine (Mrs. Christine)	1930
5025 Cullom Avenue	
Peckham, Harriet (Mrs. Leith J.)	1933
3655 N. Luna Avenue	
Peters, Rose (Mrs. Alvin C.)	1929
5231 Argyle Street	
Peterson, Beatrice (Miss Beatrice)	1938
4608 N. Kenton Avenue	
Peterson, B. Honor (Mrs. B Honor)	1916
4608 N. Kenton Avenue	
Pisors, Minnie (Mrs. Frederick)	1917
5637 Leland Avenue	
Rasmussen, Margaret (Mrs. Margaret)	1937
4116 Leamington Avenue	
Rauschenberg, Louise D.(Mrs. Paul)	1903
4871 Milwaukee Avenue	
Roesler, Elizabeth (Mrs. Herman)	1917
5413 Leland Avenue	
Rosaire, Vera (Mrs. Forrest C.)	1918
4800 Milwaukee Avenue	
Rudnik, Helen (Mrs. Michael J.)	1932
4804 N. Linder Avenue	
Runden, Pauline (Mrs. Christ J.)	1907
4946 N. Lockwood Avenue	
Runzel, Ethel (Mrs. Raymond H.)	1918
6052 Navarre Avenue	
Rusk, Wanda M. (Mrs. Joseph T.)	1929
5243 Argyle Street	
Russell, Marian (Mrs. Perry)	1916
5413 Higgins Avenue	
5413 Higgins Avenue Schaefer, Lillian (Mrs. Oscar)	1918
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Taylor, Agnes (Mrs. J. E.)	1938
4707 N. Leamington Avenue	
Warne, Grace (Mrs. George A.)	1918
5120 Pensacola Avenue	
Warner, Helen (Mrs. Lozier)	1927
6005 Newburg Avenue	
Weber, Marie (Mrs. Ewald)	1898
5375 Lawrence Avenue	
Weber, Martha (Mrs. Earl C.)	1938
5144 Lovejoy Avenue	
Westhoff, Catherine (Miss Catherine)	1922
2870 Elston Avenue	
Whittier, Frances (Mrs. A. G.)	1932
5355 Giddings Street	
Wheaton, Doll (Miss Doll)	1917
5355 Giddings Street	
Wiebe, Bertha (Mrs. George)	1937
5509 Giddings Street	
Wojiechowski, Lillian (Mrs. William)	1930
5032 N. Long Avenue	
Wolke, Sarah (Mrs. Morris)	1919
5512 Wilson Avenue	
Wrase, Marie (Mrs. William A.)	1918
5411 Giddings Street	
Wright, Persis (Mrs. Cady K.)	1899
5538 Leland Avenue	

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Mrs. A. D. O'Neill	5933 W. Circle Avenue
Mrs. Amelia Beaven	3542 N. Crawford Ave.
Mrs. William Moisley	5056 N. Long Avenue
Mrs. Margaret Walsh	4749 N. Linder Avenue
Mrs. Oscar Young	5538 Leland Avenue
Mrs. George Hayes	1068 Catalpa Avenue
Mrs. John H. Rietman	Cincinnati, Ohio

By this time, the club had affiliations with five organizations with delegates to each of the following:

Illinois State Federation of Women's Clubs	1898
Municipal Art League	1903
Seventh District Federation	1911
Traveler's Aid Society	1931
General Federation of Women's Clubs	1936



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By 1938, most neighborhoods had a women's group associated with it. The Belmont (and Central) Women's Club, Irving Park Women's Club, Wicker Park Women's Club, Hermosa Juniors, Edison Park Women's Club, Mayfair Women's Club, Kelvyn Park Women's Club, and Norwood Park Women's Club to name a few. But few have had the history associated with it as the Altrui Club of Jefferson Park. The following are a list of the organization's past presidents.

Altrui Club Presidents		Mrs. Philip J. Barry	1929-1931
		Mrs. Edward J. Marke	1931-1933
Mrs. Albert W. Holmes	1898-1905	Mrs. Ole N. Jensen	1933-1935
Mrs. Ewald Weber	1905-1906	Mrs. James C. Moreland	1935-1937
Mrs. James L. Wright	1906-1907	Mrs. Frank Maresh	1937-1939
Mrs. Charles E. Carr	1907-1909	Mrs. Milton Meyer	1940-1941
Mrs. Cady K. Wright	1909-1911	Mrs. Edwin C. Huyck	1941-1942
Mrs. Mary E. Conn	1911-1912	Mrs. Harry Croker	1943-1945
Mrs. G. L. Winter	1912-1914	Mrs. John Groenier	1945-1947
Miss Margaret L. Finnegan	1914-1916	Mrs. Edward H. Schoessling	1947-1949
Mrs. Q. DeWitt Peake	1916-1917	Miss Catherine Westhoff	1949-1951
Mrs. Allen M. Elrod	1917-1921	Mrs. Leslie W. Beaven	1951-1953
Mrs. Howard G. Smith	1921-1923	Mrs. Alfred Borresen	1950's
Mrs. Henry Diedesch	1923-1925	Miss. Adelaide Harrold	1962-1963
Mrs. Alfred G. Cook	1925-1927	Mrs. Roy Rogers	1972-1973
Mrs. Murray A. Henderson	1927-1929	Mrs. J. William Hohlen	1974-1975

The Altrui Club Committees were expanded immensely by 1938. The following had a chairman with a great many members on the each Committee.

American Citizenship and Law Observance • American Home • Civil Service and Legislation • Conservation • Courtesy • Educational • Gardens • Indian Welfare • International Relations • Literature • Motion Pictures • Music • Park Ridge School for Girls • Press • Public Health and Child Welfare • Social And House • Public Welfare (Philanthropy) • Radio • Ways and Means

Elective Committees: Calendar • Membership • Program

Special Committees: Auditing • Budget • Revisions

Besides all these Committees they had a 25-member chorus in 1938. There was also associated with this club the Altrui Juniors that was organized in 1930. The Altrui Juniors members were made up of the daughters of Altrui Senior Club members or friends of the junior members. Their age was sixteen to twenty-five and unmarried. They would have to be sponsored by a senior member and approved for membership by the board of the senior club. No doubt the women wanted to approve the kinds of girls their daughters were associating with while grooming future leaders for their club. The Altrui Juniors had the privilege of attending any regular meeting of the senior club but no right to vote.

Altrui Club Juniors Membership List 1938

Anderson, Olive Groenier, Bettye 4835 Warner Avenue Burke, Jane (Neice) 632 Roscoe Street Croker, Mildred 5703 Leland Avenue Deyo, Vivian 5334 Agatite Avenue Dudle, Edith (Maas) Krueter, Bertha 5535 Luna Avenue Granger, Vera 5415 Giddings Street Granger, Virginia 5415 Giddings Street

Groenier, Bettye
4706 Laramie
Hayes, Margaret Jean
4749 N. Linder Avenue
Kaufman, Eleanor (Moreland)
5833 Moody Avenue
Kirchhoff, Elfrieda
4721 Milwaukee Avenue
Krueter, Bertha
3335 Springfield Avenue
Manthey, Mabel
4129 Marmora Avenue
Hajdic, Jean (Rasmussen)
4116 Leamington Avenue

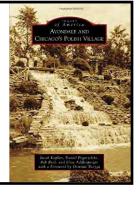
Schewe, Jeanette
4953 Belle Plaine Avenue
Taylor, Ethel
4707 Leamington Avenue
Weber, Ercilla
5129 Milwaukee Avenue
Wiebe, Charlotte
5509 Giddings street

Honored Guest for the Club Year

Thorstensen, Florence (Beals) 2626 Hoyne Avenue

Thank You!

Jacob Kaplan and Dan Pogorzelski for sharing your knowledge on Avondale and Chicago's Polish Village at one of the Northwest Chicago Historical Society's meetings. If you missed the meeting or want to learn more about this northwest side neighborhood, you can purchase their book *Avondale and Chicago's Polish Village*.



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In addition to holding Christmas Parties every year they also had a Gentlemen's Night, which was a special program like maybe a dance. Annual picnics were also held every year most often at Whealan Pool in Caldwell Woods, where husbands and children could partake in the festivities.

In the spring of 1964, the local neighborhood paper the Nadig Jefferson Park Press shows the Altrui Club still going strong with the following announcement:

The Board of directors of the Altrui Women's club will hold its regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Margaret Rasmussen, 4116 Leamington on Thursday, April 2. Returning from Florida will be Mrs. Rasmussen, International Relations chairman, and Mrs. A. Harris Culver, 4941 Carman, American Home chairman, back from Arizona is Mrs. Ruth Peterson, 445 Wellington, Publicity chairman.

The Altrui's Literature committee will meet at 8 pm Thursday, April 16 in the Avis Inn, 8201 Higgins Road, Park Ridge, Mrs. Harriet Beaven will chair the meeting. Margaret Bourke White's autobiography, "Portrait of Myself," will be reviewed by Miss Adelaide Harrold.

A card party will be sponsored by the Education committee at 7:30 pm, Thursday, April 23 in the Wilson Park fieldhouse, 4630 Milwaukee.

Sometime in the 1970's, the Altrui Club had its last meeting. Why did it close after almost 80 years of history? Did it merge with another women's organization? It is not known why; other neighborhood women's clubs were still in existence. But most likely, there were fewer women willing to step up to a leadership roll. The club ran its course and was soon forgotten.



All that is left to remind us of this dynamic women's organization is a small plaque located at the northeast corner of Jefferson Memorial Park in front of the fieldhouse. This plaque commemorates War World I Veterans from Jefferson Park and was dedicated by the Altrui Club (most likely) in the 1930's. It was a contributing resource for getting the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Park listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1999, the Chicago Park District added the word "Memorial" to the park's name. Undoubtedly, this plaque was instrumental in the renaming of the park.

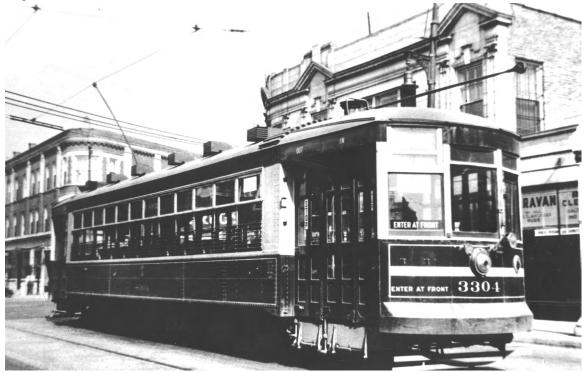
Lost Chicago Corners

by Frank Suerth

In the days when Chicago retail districts were developed, the corners of major street intersections played an important role for shopping and community interaction. The buildings on these corners, along with most other retail buildings, were constructed adjacent to the sidewalks, with no front easements. The corner buildings were generally a little larger and more elaborate in design. Because these establishments could be viewed and accessed from two major streets, they were more desirable.

In the middle of the twentieth century, oil companies also took notice of these intersections and decided they would make excellent locations for gas stations. They would have two entrances for cars, one on each street. In turn, our pedestrian friendly majestic business corners began to disappear. In the late twentieth century, many newer businesses without respect for the history of urban neighborhoods began to buy up corner lots, tear down existing buildings, and construct major parking lots on the corners in front of their establishments. Often businesses were more concerned about expanding their business rather than preserving the original character of the neighborhood.

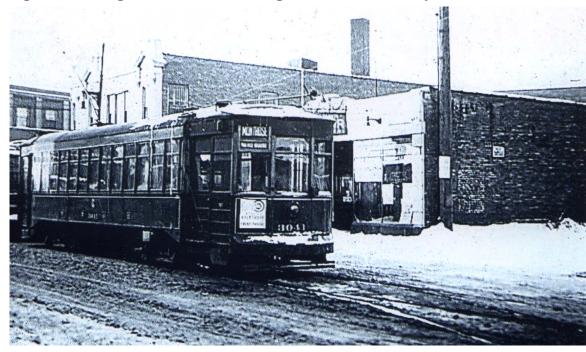
While many of these intersections have been destroyed, we are fortunate to have saved the character of the intersection Milwaukee and Montrose. A little over a decade ago, the beautiful structure on the southeast corner was a candidate for the wrecking ball. The plans were to create another nondescript parking lot with a drug store. Due to community activism and protestation, the building still stands as an anchor in our neighborhood.



The intersection of Milwaukee & Montrose. All buildings in the background are still standing. This was the west end of the line for Montrose Streetcars.



Photo taken from Milwaukee and Montrose looking east down Montrose. All buildings in the background are still standing. Photo taken on July 28, 1946



North side of Montrose Avenue just east of Milwaukee Avenue.



South bound Milwaukee Avenue Streetcar at Milwaukee and Montrose.

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Trolley buses replaced the streetcars on Montrose Avenue and on all other city streets. This photo was taken at the end of the line at Montrose and Narragansett across the street from the Dunning State Hospital in 1959. These buses are waiting their departure times to begin their eastbound trips on Montrose to Broadway. Off-street loops such as this one were occasionally built to turn streetcars, but were more commonly provided for turning trolley buses (and later motor buses). A number of them still exist today and are used by present day buses at the end of their runs. This location today would be totally unrecognizable and has been replaced with a small strip mall.



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In 2014, the Northwest Chicago Historical Society lost a treasured member and dedicated volunteer, Harold "Hal" Jenkins. While he did not live on the Northwest Side of Chicago, close friends introduced him to the organization and the history of the area. He became active in the society and helped us find direction as we moved to reach a new, incremental, demographic. One of his most critical contributions was the design and maintenance of the NWCHS website, which brought us a new presence and an increased audience, leading to broader membership and furthering our educational



goals. Without him, the organization would never have been able to find the solid grounding we have today. While he did not live within the city limits, we often saw him in the community, attending Mass at Our Lady of Victory, taking in the bands at Jeff Fest, or just talking about his next project in a bungalow back yard. Hal is now part of our history, but he will forever be respected, admired, and loved for what he contributed to all those he knew (and didn't know) on the Northwest Side.

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