



# Newsletter

NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

January, 2009

## Next monthly meeting:

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009, 7:00 p.m.  
Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria,  
Lower Level  
Straight Street

## From the President's desk



Happy 2009, CUF neighbors and friends.

I am welcoming in this year with fresh hopes and a new commitment to make our community stronger and better. I will be pursuing more events to reach out to the police, our Business Association, and the Uptown Consortium. I will be bringing you interesting snapshots of our past history so we may continue to look forward.

Already this year, we begin our first meeting with something new. We have all seen the increase in crime in the neighborhoods around the University. I do not see this decreasing, so our first meeting this year will be to learn new safety tips from one of our own police officers, Officer Governor Williams. The rest of the police will be present, like always, but we thought the first meeting would be a great venue for learning and increasing our own individual safety. We will also be introducing forms for police questions and complaints to help our police track our issues so we can recognize the trends. And don't forget about the Citizens on Patrol meetings the first Thursday of the month at Rohs Street Café at 7 pm.

I will be meeting with the other Uptown neighborhood presidents (Avondale, Corryville, Clifton, and Mt Auburn) and their business association presidents on January 13th. We will be working as a group to help re-engage Uptown Consortium.

Julie Murray and I will be meeting with the Clifton Heights Business Association members and helping them increase business participation and membership. We are all looking forward to a regular cleaning in the Business District (applications have been submitted). Thanks to the Business Association for working on this and thanks to those who are willing to step up to the plate!!

My historical note of interest is a little

known fact and I was hoping for some help from the neighborhood history buffs. Originally, our neighborhoods were just Fairview Heights and Clifton Heights. Fairview, or Riddle's Hill, was bounded by Central Parkway (the old Miami and Erie canal) on the West, Emming and Clifton on the South, McMillan and Straight on the North, and Vine Street on the East. Clifton Heights was the area with Central Parkway on the west, Straight Street on the south, Clifton Avenue on the east, and Howell on the North. These were separate neighborhoods, annexed by the city in 1849 (Fairview Heights) and 1870 (Clifton Heights).

What is interesting is that if you look at a map, what we consider Clifton Heights today was really considered Fairview and Fairview Heights until recently. And what used to be called Clifton Heights is now what we call University Heights and the Heights. Originally Clifton Heights was the name for University Heights, as a catchy way to draw working class and middle class people to the neighborhood to be near the more affluent Clifton suburb. A reminder to me of the power of good marketing.

I would be interested to know when and why University Heights became University Heights. And how did Clifton Heights take over the name? Does anyone have a copy of the original by-laws from back in 1934 or even 1910?

I will be looking for those who have an interest in the community who are willing to revive our history and past contributions to the newsletter. Julz Brown, our neighbor on Flora, has been contributing real estate tips in the last few months that I hope everyone finds useful. In the past years, we have had "Historical Segments" and "CUF Houses of the Month." I welcome anyone who wants to contribute to the newsletter. I would love to see "Neighborhood Bio Sketches" or "A Tour of Our Neighborhood Dives." This is not about one person, but about a community. So bring it, my fellow CUFites!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting for the special night of Street Safety education at 7 pm instead of our regular 7:30 pm start time.

Rob Neel

## Personal safety session #1, 7 p.m., next CUF meeting

The January 2009 CUF general meeting will have a different start than usual.

We will start the meeting at 7 p.m. at Deaconess with the first hour being led by Governor Williams, one of our esteemed District 5 police officers. He will be instructing residents on a few basic personal safety techniques and giving tips to all for increasing our awareness of our surroundings.

Plan on arriving at 7 pm for a 1 hour session that will replace our usual police report. Our regular monthly meeting will start at 8 p.m.

---

## Treasurer's Report, January, 2009

Balance on: Dec. 1, 2008      \$4,926.20

### *Income:*

Dues	\$6.00
Dues	\$6.00
Lowe's refund	\$1.65

*Total income:*                      \$13.65

### *Expenses:*

D. O'Brien	\$7.19
Benken's (Fairview)	\$4,320.28
FedEx	\$177.49
Toland (cards)	\$50.03

*Total expenses:*                      \$4,554.99

Balance on: Jan. 1, 2009      \$384.86

---

## Bylaws Amendment

Proposed ammendment to the CUF Neighborhood Association Bylaws to be voted on by the Trustees at the General Meeting on February 17, 2009. Copies of the existing Bylaws may be requested and are online at the CUF website.

ARTICLE VI, SECTION 13: If, during a term of office, a Trustee changes residency out of the boundaries of the CUF Neighborhood Association as stated in Article IV, that Trustee shall immediately tender a letter of resignation.

## Liquor licenses

Liquor licenses are handled more at the state level than at the city and neighborhood level. Consequently, neighborhood associations and local police have little impact unless they are willing to scream very loudly at the state level. We all know how hard this can be. Some members of City Council and some very active community council members are getting together to talk about this. City Councilmember Leslie Ghiz's office has been aiding this and will be holding a liquor license seminar.

Below are the details regarding the liquor license seminar:

When: Thursday, January 29

Where: Llanfair Retirement Community in College Hill (1701 Llanfair Ave., Cincinnati OH, 45224)

Representatives from the Police Department and the State will be attending, and refreshments will be provided.

If you are interested, talk to Linda Ziegler.

---

## Street repaving 2009

City View Pl.	East Terminus to Ravine Street
Clemmer Ave.	East Terminus to McMillan Street
Deckebach St.	Probasco Street to Riddle Avenue
Fox St.	Flora Street to Coon Street
Kottman St.	Halstead Street to West Terminus
Luna St.	Clemmer Avenue to Straight Street
Marshall Ave.	Riddle Road to Central Parkway
McNally St.	McMicken Avenue to Halstead St.
Probasco Ct.	South Terminus to Probasco Street
Probasco St.	Marshall Avenue to Probasco Ct.
Valley View Ct.	Clemmer Ave. to North Terminus

For further information contact Chris Ertel at: Chris.Ertel@cincinnati-oh.gov or 352-3295.

---

## Mosaic art workshop

Local artist extraordinaire, Suzanne Fisher, will hold a mosaic workshop in her home studio, January 24 & 25, 2009, 10-4, both days.

Create mosaics in glass and ceramic with artist Suzanne Fisher. Learn to cut and place tiles and pottery shards to create colorful and lively works of art, then cement and grout them to completion. All materials are provided, no experience necessary! Class limited to 5 participants. Cost: \$100. Please email to pre-register, or for more information: [suzzyfish@aol.com](mailto:suzzyfish@aol.com).

---

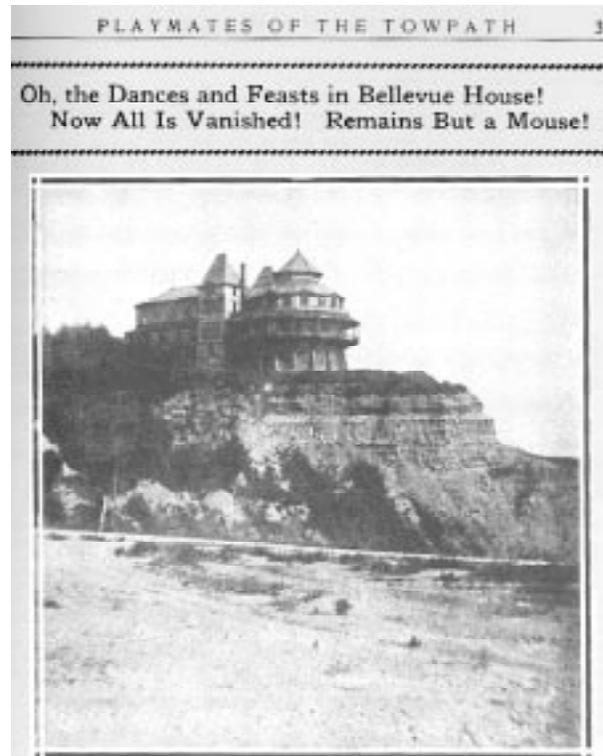
## Invest in Neighborhoods news

The Neighborhood Summit will be held on Saturday, Jan. 24 at the Cintas Center at Xavier University. See more at <http://www.investinneighborhoods.com/summit2009.html>.

## Bellevue Incline

Our neighborhood was home to two of the city's famous inclines, the Bellevue Incline and the Fairview Incline. The Bellevue Incline, or the Cincinnati & Clifton Inclined Plane Railroad, at the end of McMicken and Elm Street, connected Elm Street to Ohio Avenue. It operated from 1876 to 1926. It was 980 to 1200 feet in length, and 395 feet in height. It could haul up to 20 tons at one time. The incline was built to connect the people in the city basin with the hillsides around, so they could escape the crowding of the city proper. The incline helped connect city dwellers to the "suburb" of Fairview ("Riddle's Hill"), Corryville, and Mt. Auburn, and brought in many new homeowners to the area.

The Bellevue House was built on the site at the top of the Incline in 1877. It served as a beer garden, amusement house, and dance hall, for the people who could take the incline up the hill. A venerable party platform, this establishment served mainly beer products from Christian Moerlein's brewery (located at Elm Street), who also happened to build his mansion just north of there at 2407 Ohio Avenue. When the incline was rebuilt in 1890 to accommodate streetcars rather



The Bellevue House, today the site of Bellevue Park, as seen when looking east from what is now Hastings Street.



The Bellevue Incline, 1876-1926. The limestone support is still standing.

than just passengers, people could travel from the downtown to the suburbs without having to transfer here. This, as well as the growing temperance movement, caused the resort to close in 1895. Our history as a recreation destination did not begin with the University and the student housing changes that began in the 1960s!

The Incline became less needed as better roads and means of transportation developed. It closed in 1926-27. The property sat unused until 1936, when the city park board bought the land. The current layout of the park was created in 1954-55

with Carl Freund's interesting modern pavilion built at that time for outdoor dancing.

Remnants of the support structures for the Bellevue Incline remain along Clifton Avenue just after the Vine Street junction, along the area where there is a current Clifton Street renovation. Hopefully, this will be preserved and might even be used again in the future for a Metro bus stop or streetcar stop. Dreams of the return of an incline to the neighborhood continue, but it would only return for historical and tourism reasons at this point in history.

### Sources:

*Cincinnati: History of the Inclines*, compiled by Bob O'Brien

*The Bicentennial Guide to Greater Cincinnati: A Portrait of Two Hundred Years*, The Cincinnati Historical Society 1988.

*Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine*, Kevin Grace and Tom White, 2003.

Time Sensitive  
Material

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Permit No. 4834

2364 West McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

CLIFTON HEIGHTS  
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS  
FAIRVIEW  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



## Notice to Members of CUF Community Fund

The annual meeting of the CUF Community Fund will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009.

The agenda for the meeting is to review and approve the minutes of the Fund's February 2008 annual meeting, vote to elect two members to the Board of Trustees, review the 2008 financial report of the Fund and discuss issues pertaining to the Fund. Copies of the minutes and the Fund's 2008 financial report will be distributed to all members attending the meeting.

The slate of candidates running for the two positions on the Board of Trustees are: Sharon Buckner, Maureen France, Paul Gallagher, Craig Lloyd, Dennis O'Brien, Gayle Prager and Linda Ziegler

### *CUF Community Fund Membership Requirements*

To be a Member of the CUF Community Fund, one must be a paid member of the Clifton Heights, University Heights and Fairview Neighborhood Association (CUF) for twenty-four months prior to the annual meeting of the Members and must be a permanent resident residing within Clifton Heights,

University Heights or Fairview as designated in the by-laws of the CUF Neighborhood Association, Inc., or its successor organization. A permanent resident is defined as one residing year round within the CUF community for at least four consecutive years (48 months) immediately preceding the consideration of Member status. The burden of satisfying the requirement of permanent residency is upon the individual seeking to be a Member.

Personal invitations will be mailed to individuals that satisfy the first requirement for membership. (Paid member of CUF for twenty-four months prior to the annual meeting). Invitations will designate which individuals will need to provide proof of permanent residency.

The members of the Board of the CUF Community Fund wish to extend to all members of the CUF community a happy, healthy, safe and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Dennis O'Brien	President
Linda Bailey	Treasurer
Craig Lloyd	Secretary
Betty Ferone	Vice President
Sally Larson	Vice President

W W W . C U F N A . O R G