



COUNTRY CLUB NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Chronicle

CCNA HISTORY Lake Street Lines Was Short Lived, Much Loved

Between 1969 and 1975, "The Lake Street Lines" operated on a "hit and miss" basis throughout our neighborhood... and at no charge!

In August 1969, I constructed it, using the chassis of a 1961 Cushman industrial electric truckster. Top speed was 10 mph and the batteries were good for about two hours before it needed a 10-hour charge. Obviously, we had to tow it home quite often.

Neighbor kids loved it. The clanging bell, running boards, and cupola made it a San Francisco cable car look-alike, albeit one third the size. Registered as a motorcycle, it featured a slow-moving vehicle sign on the rear, which was very much needed, to say the least.

The picture was snapped by a *Lincoln Journal* photographer who just happened upon us at 29th Street and Woodsdale Boulevard. Pictured with me are sons Rick and Scott, who never tired of taking another ride.

It was a time long before stringent insurance regulations were in place and such an operation would be out of the question in today's



litigious society. That, coupled with a lack of spare parts and changing interests, finally doomed the service in early 1975.

'Twas a simpler time.

By Bob Ammon

The CCNA Chronicle's folk history series will run periodically. Readers are encouraged to submit stories and/or photos to Julie Enersen at 2428 Calumet Court or via e-mail at julieenersen@yahoo.com.

CCNA MEETING DATES

CCNA would like to have the entire neighborhood come to the monthly meetings. They are open to everyone and we would love your input. They are the third Tuesday of the month (except June, August and December), 7:00 PM, at St. Matthew's, 24th and Sewell.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

This meeting will feature Captains Bob Wilhelm and Kim Koluch of the Lincoln Police Department as our guest speakers. Come find out what is – or is not – happening in our neighborhood. The new crime mapping

capabilities are fascinating. What does it mean? Is there a trend? What are we doing right? What can we do better? Come see how CCNA is doing.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

This meeting will focus on using the Internet for accessing City services and information AND filing a complaint – a very valuable tool. This is also the time of the year that the City begins to plan projects for the upcoming year – sidewalk repair, road construction, etc. Want something done in your part of the

neighborhood? Bring your neighbors and tell us what you have in mind.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

2007 is CCNA's 100th Anniversary. Dates have been set for several events, ideas submitted and some committee chairs identified. For all of you who want to work on these fun projects for 2007, come to this meeting. See what is in the planning, add any great ideas, join a committee and have fun. We hope to see many of you at this meeting.

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Thank you for serving your neighborhood!

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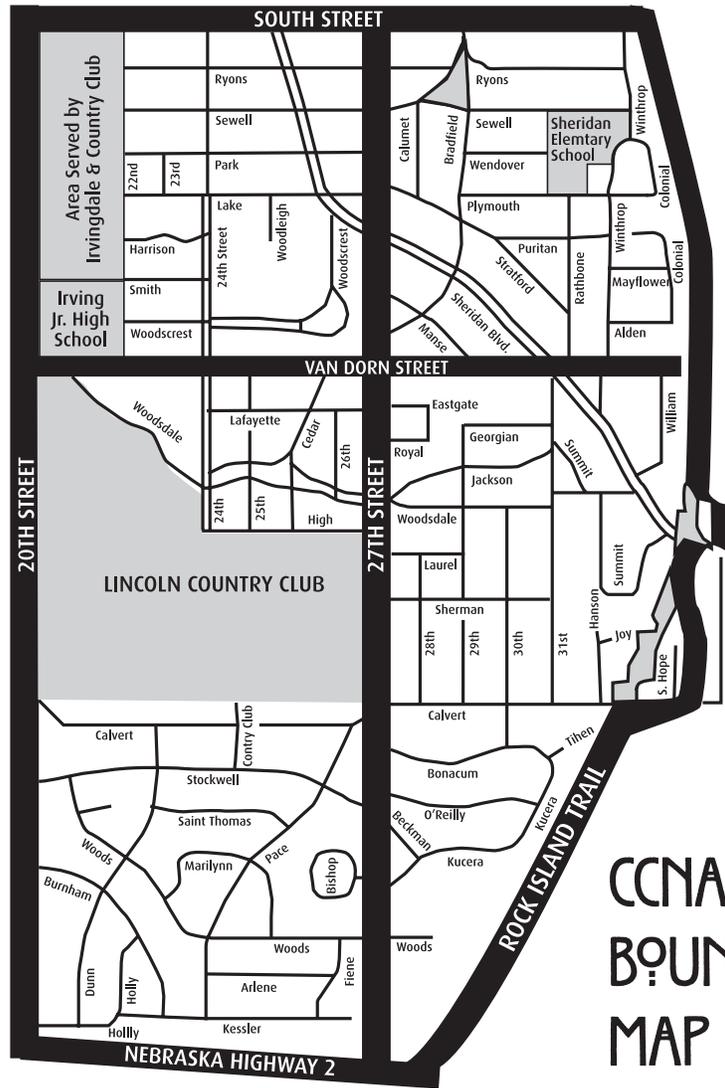
Interested CCNA Members

History Julie Enersen, 475-9988

Advertising Kay Hesse, 489-6346

Members and readers who have questions, comments or suggestions may call the individual(s) responsible for the area(s) of concern.

The *CCNA CHRONICLE* is the official publication of the Country Club Neighborhood Association (CCNA). The *CCNA CHRONICLE* is published three times a year by the CCNA and every address in the CCNA boundaries is mailed a copy. Statements of fact and opinion made are the responsibility of the authors alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the officers or members of CCNA. While this publication makes a reasonable effort to establish the integrity of its advertisers, it does not endorse advertised products or services unless specifically stated as such. All correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to: Country Club Neighborhood Association, Attn: CHRONICLE Editor, PO Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542.



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Contact: Kay Hesse at 489-6346

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- CCNA Business Directory
- A CCNA boundary map
- Links to other community organizations
- Read past issues of the *Chronicle*
- See By-Laws

THANK YOU'S

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Your neighborhood association is very lucky to have the talents of many people donated for the good of CCNA. We would like to recognize some very special people for having served on the CCNA Board and CCNA Projects:

MARY LYNN SCHAFFER for having served as a Board member, an officer and the outgoing President of CCNA. Mary Lynn has excellent organizational skills and kept your Board on task with many very important issues that affected our neighborhood. We are lucky that she will remain on the CCNA Board as President ex officio. Thank you, Mary Lynn.

JOHN HOPPE, JR. for serving his term as a Board member. John brought another perspective to the Board and helped us to see things from another point of view. Thank you, John.

JULIE ENERSEN for her tireless work as Membership Chair. Julie kept track of the membership, the CCNA database and researched and wrote the wonderful historical articles for the CCNA *Chronicle*. We are lucky that Julie will continue contributing articles to the *Chronicle*. Thank you, Julie.

KIM KAUFMAN for making the 16th Annual CCNA Neighborhood Garage Sale a huge success! The weather was a little uncooperative, but it did not stop the bargain hunters from scouring for treasures. Thank you, Kim.

And a special Thank you! to all of the people in the neighborhood who take pride in their homes and their neighborhood. All of this helps to make CCNA a wonderful place to live.

YOUR NEW CCNA BOARD

The April 2006 CCNA meeting inducted the new officers and Board members of CCNA. These volunteers come from the Four Corners of the neighborhood and streets in between. Some have been around for a long time and some are brand new. One thing they all share in common is the commitment to the CCNA mission statement – *To preserve, protect and enhance the Country Club Neighborhood.*

A recent issue of *Newsweek* magazine listed Nebraska as the #2 state in the United States for the number of hours per capita devoted to volunteering. We are sure that this high scoring was in part due to the number of volunteers involved in your Country Club Neighborhood Association. An associated article documented the “feeling of well-being”, the “sense of accomplishment” and the “positive attitudes” one experienced as a result of volunteering.

Want to feel good – join CCNA, come to meetings and get involved. After all, this is YOUR neighborhood and the most expensive investment most of you will ever make – your home. Investing in your neighborhood association means investing in you.



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Linda Wibbels

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Times have been interesting in Lincoln lately. With all the talk about the City budget and the Public Works Department, our neighborhood has been thrown into the mix. It may seem like this discussion of the problems in Public Works is an "all of a sudden" topic, but it is really one with a long history. Perhaps the phrase "the more things change, the more they stay the same" is appropriate to describe the situation.

When Mayor Mike Johanns was in office the City of Lincoln adopted a road policy in the City's comprehensive plan of "2 plus 1 (center turn lane)" for street configurations through established neighborhoods like ours where road right-of-way is limited. In new areas, larger rights-of-way were to be set aside for larger roads to provide for easy access around the city. These policies were reaffirmed in the new 2002 comprehensive plan and all subsequent updates.

Public Works, however, despite clear policy set by community process and elected officials, continues to push for the widening of 27th Street. Such widening of 27th Street would devastate our neighborhood, wipe out trees and homes and reduce residential investment for blocks on either side of the street. It would in fact attract more cars to already widened intersections at Hwy 2, Capitol Parkway and "O" Street. It would increase congestion at all of the intersections north and south of our neighborhood. Studies over the past ten years have always shown that travel speeds are faster in our neighborhood than along the widened portions of 27th Street to the north and many other widened streets throughout the city.

In the latest 2006 update to the transportation portion of the comprehensive plan, Public Works brought forward several proposals that would have been very destructive to our neighborhood. One of those was to not only widen 27th Street, an apparent obsession for them, but to widen Van Dorn Street from 10th Street to 27th Street from its existing two through lanes to five lanes! Is our neighborhood to become both a major north/south AND east/west crossing point for Lincoln?

Fortunately, such proposals have been seen for what they are – the "targeting" of our neighborhood – and have not gone forward. But we know that Public Works will likely continue to push their agenda and we must be ever vigilant.

We should be very protective of our beautiful neighborhood. We want our families, children and grandchildren to have the same wonderful life here that we have. Our homes are our investments. Our neighborhood is our investment. We all should be very proactive in supporting each other and the Country Club Neighborhood Association. After all, this is our home.

EVERYTHING HAS A PRICE!

CCNA is very lucky to have the financial support of its neighbors. Your dues are the only source of revenue and we manage to *stretch* every dollar. Your dues pay for the newsletter and other mailings, contributions to projects that positively impact our neighborhood and pay for the community share portion of grants written for trees and landscaping in our neighborhood.



But, we can always use more money. We have lots of projects that need to be funded in 2007 – Pocras Park, fixing the broken water hydrants in the boulevards and parks, boulevard turf, landscaping at 27th & Hwy 2 – and the list goes on. We also have the 100th Anniversary celebration in 2007.

WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS FOREST'S SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING PROGRAM!

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The State of our Green Spaces

North, South, East or West

No matter which way you enter our neighborhood, you are greeted by beautiful green spaces. It is always amazing to be traveling north on South 27th, cross Hwy 2 and be greeted by open green spaces and the beautiful canopy of trees. Pass by Woods Boulevard, Kucera Drive and Bishop Square and all the way to South Street and you experience what traffic engineers call "traffic calming". All of this, plus our 3 parks and 43 boulevards, enhance our neighborhood.

Our neighborhood is also an asset to the City of Lincoln. CCNA and the entire neighborhood make a great effort to make sure our green spaces are presentable for the Lincoln Marathon, visitors who are being given a "tour" of Lincoln and YOU, taxpayers who live here.

At the present time we are working with Parks and Recreation to have several areas reseeded this fall. Revitalization of the turf is part of our Master Plan. If you see an area that has been reseeded near your house, please take your garden hose and sprinkle the new grass.

New Trees in the Neighborhood

Over the last nine years the Country Club Neighborhood Association has written grants for the planting of over 500+ new trees in the neighborhood. CCNA also paid for the installation of the sprinkler system west of the roundabout at 33rd and Sheridan and paid for an equivalent of about seven years worth of water for the sprinkler system. All in all, your neighborhood association, combined with grants and other private donations, has saved the City of Lincoln over \$200,000.00 worth of improvements.

The latest grant and CCNA contribution went towards the 15 new trees that you see along Winthrop Road in Rathbone Village shopping/business district, the 4 new trees on Sewell Street by Sheridan Elementary School and the 19 new trees planted along Van Dorn at Southeast High School. We also filled in spots throughout the neighborhood totaling 43 new trees!

Grant funds for neighborhood use will be very limited in the next few years and CCNA will not be applying for these very limited funds. If you need a street tree or need a tree replaced, please call the City of Lincoln – 441-7171 – and ask for Parks & Recreation.



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IT WAS A HOT! HOT! SUMMER

And everyone and everything sweltered. It was very hard on yards and especially hard on our trees, specifically the flowering trees.

Driving around the neighborhood you probably saw a lot of the spring flowering trees completely dead. The weather conditions were favorable for spider mites and other insects that found them worthy of a feast. Along with the City Arborist, we have identified about 15 trees in the neighborhood that need to be removed. We do not know when this will happen, but would like to have it soon so they do not

infect other trees. We have requested that the City replace the trees, but do not know if it will happen.

These trees were planted prior to CCNA's grant writing program. As pretty as they are when they are blooming in the spring, we have stayed away from this species for this specific reason – very prone to disease, fungus, blight and insects. We work hard for your money and want to make sure that it goes a long, long way.

You've Got Mail!

Not at the curb, but at your house!

In previous issues of *The Chronicle* we reported that many neighbors complained about receiving a letter from their mail carrier stating they had to move their mailbox to the curb. Not only was this inconvenient to the homeowner, but it also increased the possibility of mail/identity theft and vandalism. CCNA visited with the Lincoln Post Master regarding this misleading letter. While the mail carrier would like to have the boxes at the curb, IT IS NOT A REQUIREMENT. Some people have already moved their mailbox back to the house. So, if you are new to the neighborhood and receive one of these letters, please note that you do not have to move your mailbox down to the curb.

WE'VE GOT MAIL – E-MAIL!

The Country Club Neighborhood Association has gone electronic! We now have another way in which you can contact us –

By phone – feel free to call any officer or CCNA Board Member.

By mail – CCNA, P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, Nebraska 68542

By email – ccna@neb.rr.com

We hope to have your email addresses put into our Contacts list. Try out our new email address and give us your information for our data base.



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HOT TIMES AND HOT TOPICS

The summer temperatures were not the only sizzling topics of discussion these last several months. So were the real estate tax valuations and their impact on City revenues and the new City budget. City leaders and city departments had some very difficult decisions to make. What items from the City budget would be cut? What would remain the same? What would be added?

CCNA watched the budget process very closely to see how it would impact our neighborhood. These are some of the results:

Pocras Park and 2 Other City Parks Put Back in the 2007 Budget!

What a wonderful surprise when the 3 parks that were cut from the budget were added back into the budget during the "budget process". With a special *Thank you!* to Councilmen Jonathan Cook and Dan Marvin, Pocras Park was put BACK into the 2007 budget.

City Tree Budget Trimmed

According to Steve Schwab, City Arborist with Parks & Recreation, the City budget for street trees – new and replacement – will only be \$10,000.00 in 2007. Over the last 9 to 10 years your neighborhood association has planted approximately \$200,000.00 worth of trees. These funds came from grants written by CCNA, CCNA treasury funds and donations from neighbors. Grant funds have become very limited so we will not be applying for many grants in the future. So, if you need a street tree or feel that one needs to be replaced, please call Steve Schwab immediately as \$10,000.00 does not go very far. Call Steve at 441-7036.

South Branch Library

Several years ago South Branch Library was being threatened with a possible closure, reduction of hours, etc. This action was needed in order to allow other libraries to stay open and meet staffing needs. At the time, CCNA and other neighborhood associations strongly advocated for the South Branch Library. This year it was feared that South Branch would again be targeted. We are very pleased to report that South Branch will remain the same.



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Many times you wish you could call someone, but just don't know who to call. Keep these numbers handy:

441-6300 - This is a 24 hour City hotline to anonymously report a problem property – garbage, code violations, junk car/vehicle/boat, etc. parked in the wrong place, too many tenants. Just call and follow the instructions. The proper city authority will follow up on the complaint.

441-6000 - Police - This number goes immediately to the police dispatcher. If you need something that needs immediate attention, do not hesitate to call.

911 - This is the police number for emergencies. Call 441-6000 for non-emergencies.

www.ci.lincoln.ne.us - Click on “City Services Request”. This is an excellent new program where you can turn in a complaint and then follow its progress. It covers anything and everything from a problem property to potholes that need to be filled. Check this out!

ARE WE IN A DROUGHT?

The weather has been beautiful and no one is complaining about the temperatures. Who needs to go to Arizona for the winter when we have weather like this?

There is, however, a downside to this fabulous weather – a lack of moisture. The obvious is the effect this will have on lawns, trees and plantings. But did you know that this also could affect your house? More specifically, this can negatively affect your foundation.

As the ground loses moisture it becomes hard and compact. It starts to “shrink” away from the foundation leaving large cracks and gaping holes. A heavy rain cannot be absorbed by the hardened soil and could run straight down your foundation and possibly into your basement. Dry, hard soil can also bring on the settling of steps, sidewalks and other concrete areas. So, if you think you are conserving water by not watering and letting your lawn go dormant, just remember that the stability of your house requires a certain amount of moisture in your lawn.

Let's hope for some gentle, autumn rains. If not, water wisely. Your trees and lawn – and your house – will love you for it!