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**Upcoming SLN Events**

**SLN Meeting**  
Wed. Feb. 24  
7 p.m. at Grace Place.  
Come learn more about additional Student housing coming to the South Loop.

**Jazz Showcase**,  
Mon. Mar. 8  
8 p.m.  
Admission is free for members.

**Quick Links**

[Join SLN or Renew Your Membership](#)  
At the website, click **Join** on the right end of the menu bar.

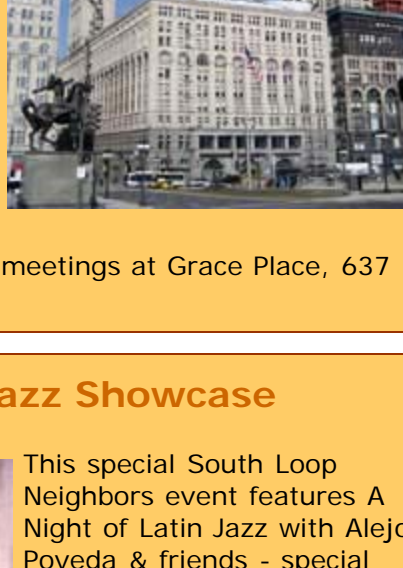
**The Winter Blahs Are Gone!**

**Blackie's**™ Thanks to all of you...it was a grand success...Thank You! Our SLN "Dispel the Winter Blahs" dinner at Blackie's was a great deal of fun for long-term members, new members and visitors alike...lots of delicious food and lots of great camaraderie! We thank each of the 75 attendees as well as Blackie's Susan Delhey who put so many special touches on the evening. This event was coordinated by SLN Secretary Marilyn Peterson and her committee.

**Public Meeting - February 24**

SLN will hold a public meeting on Wed., February 24th at 7 p.m. The subject of the meeting will be:

"New Student Residences"  
Guest speakers:  
Lesley Slavitt, of  
Roosevelt University  
Keith Giles, of  
Kargil Development Partners  
Please attend. The meeting is open to all South Loop residents and guests.



SLN regularly holds its public meetings at Grace Place, 637 S. Dearborn St.

**An Evening at the Jazz Showcase**



This special South Loop Neighbors event features A Night of Latin Jazz with Alejo Poveda & friends - special guests John Moulder & Vijay Tellis Nayak.

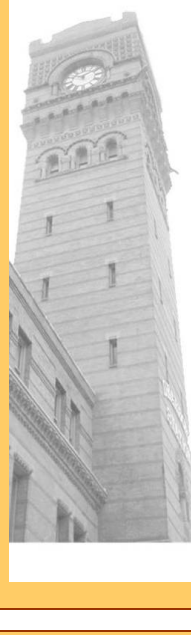
Jazz Showcase  
Dearborn Station  
806 South Plymouth Ct.  
Monday, March 8th.  
Doors open at 7:30. Show at 8:00 PM. Admission is free for members. Or, with new membership or renewal at the door - or online in advance.

Please contact Carole Hanzyk [JazzShowcaseRSVP@southloopneighbors.com](mailto:JazzShowcaseRSVP@southloopneighbors.com) for more information or RSVP.

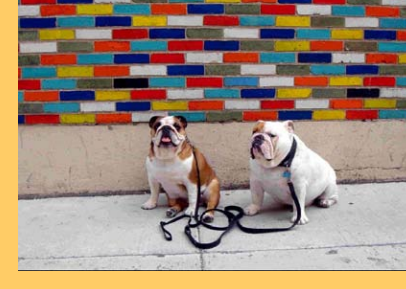
**Upcoming Events**

As Dennis McClendon, SLN president, said at the Blackie's party on February 10, there are many and varied events planned by SLN for this year-averaging one per month! We hope you will participate in many, if not all, of them. Some of the events have become SLN traditions including Jazz Showcase night, LitFest, Walking Tours with Dennis McClendon, Photo Show and Contest, Loft Walk, and then there are new events including wine tasting, Soldier Field tour, and more. Stay tuned as details evolve!

We'd also love to have your ideas and help by joining committees for several of these events. Drop us an e-mail to let us know if you would like to join.



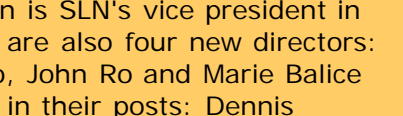
**11th Annual Photo Show and Tour**



The SLN Photo Contest and Show, being held in August is seeking committee members. There are several and different components to the Photo Show and Tour. Among them are: sponsorship and sponsorship garnering, judging, poster and flyer designing, writing and distribution, framing, distribution and hanging of the photographs, and more! Please consider joining the team for the 11th annual photo show and tour. Work is already underway! For more information, please contact Marie Balice Ward at [PhotoShow@southloopneighbors.org](mailto:PhotoShow@southloopneighbors.org)

**SLN Board Changes**

At the SLN's annual meeting, it has retained several officers and directors and appointed some new members to its board. New to the SLN board is Jaqi Green is SLN's vice president in charge of membership. There are also four new directors: Nicole Batsch, Emily Colantino, John Ro and Marie Balice Ward. Three officers continue in their posts: Dennis McClendon who has been retained as president, Marilyn Peterson, secretary and Carole Hanzyk, treasurer. The board also includes three continuing directors: Dan Flavin, Bonnie McGrath and Kathleen Moyer.



SLN thanks Helen Kaplow and Greg Borzo, for their outstanding service to the SLN and the South Loop community during 2009. Helen served as vice president in charge of membership, and Greg Borzo was a director who chaired the Photo Show and Contest. Both resigned at the end of their terms. Thank you very much!

**Is it Really that Time of Year ... Again!**



Though it seems like we were just celebrating at the "after party", and the time is upon us, to start planning this year's Loft Walk. It'll be hard to match the success of the 2009 event... so the sooner the South Loop Neighbors gets the better! Nicole Batsch will head up the volunteer group.

Jaqi Green will find lofts, funding and getting people to participate in the event. We will need a committee, volunteers serve as escorts, in addition to:

- Host for the after party
- Corporate sponsors
- Help with advertising and press releases
- Posters and programs designed and printing
- Coordinating space at Dearborn Station
- And more...

If you have worked on the event in the past, we could use your expertise... if you have not, please help us nonetheless. We could also use fresh ideas.

A date for the Loft Walk will be set once the Bears schedule is out. Please write to Jaqi Green and let us how you would like to be part of this year's Loft Walk committee. Thanks!

**Join the winning team**

Now, if I had one of those giant sports fingers, I'd be pointing it your way, but since I don't just pretend... and when we take our tour of Soldier Field this spring, I promise to get one by then!

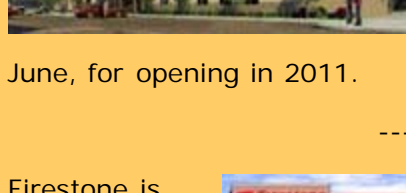


Yes, you heard correctly, a tour of Soldier Field is just one of the many events South Loop Neighbors has planned for this year! There are many, many other wonderful events and discounts you'll be entitled to as a proud member of South Loop Neighbors (SLN)!

We have many programs in the works, which will get you out and about the community...meeting your neighbors and networking. The calendar is being planned right now and we are getting members more great discounts around town.

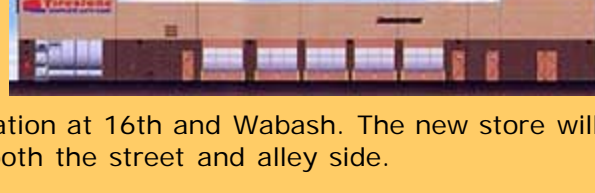
Look forward to seeing you soon. Jaqi Green, Membership Chair, SLN

**Development Notes**



The Archdiocese of Chicago has announced plans for a new parochial school building, replacing part of the parking lot north of Old St. Mary's in the 1500 block of South Michigan. Work is to start in June, for opening in 2011.

Firestone is constructing a replacement for its recently demolished location at 16th and Wabash. The new store will have bays on both the street and alley side.



Ald. Fioretti is working to establish a new park in the 1600 block of South Wabash, with a dog-friendly area.



Columbia recently dedicated its new Media Production Center at 16th and State. The building, designed by Chicago architect

Jeanne Gang, includes several features to inspire film students, from colored glass based on the SMPTE test pattern to room arrangements reminiscent of various cinematic techniques. The building's lobby includes a reconstructed terra-cotta entrance that once graced the Famous Players-Lasky Film Exchange in the 1300 block of Wabash.

The Sun-Times reported on Feb. 8th that a contract has been awarded for construction of an intermodal facility at Metra's LaSalle Street Station. The facility, at Financial Place and Congress, will offer suburban commuters easier off-street transfers to CTA buses.



The former YWCA Building at 830 South Michigan is being demolished, despite being part of a city landmark district. Former owners had let the building deteriorate such that structural safety became a concern. Previous plans to incorporate the facade into a new development stalled and the building was sold last year to new owners.

In late 2009, East-West University demolished two buildings in the 800 block of Wabash. The two buildings, both former film exchanges built in the 1920s, had been held for decades by Johnson Publishing, but were purchased last year by the university. The university has no immediate plans for the property, which for now will be used for surface parking.

City workers installed lighting in January to illuminate the tower of Dearborn Station at night. The lights are perhaps not as bright as Ald. Fioretti had hoped, however, and no one will mistake the tower for the Wrigley Building.

If you have South Loop news or event info to share with your neighbors, We invite you to send us the scoop at [Editor@SouthLoopNeighbors.org](mailto:Editor@SouthLoopNeighbors.org). We hope to see you around the neighborhood!

Sincerely,

**Bonnie McGrath and Marie Balice Ward**  
Newsletter Co-Editors