One of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation’s most enjoyable tasks is to acknowledge those individuals who have been endorsed, by an organization or individual, for an award because of the outstanding efforts those individuals have put forth to help Denver neighborhoods. Nominations are now open. These awards are presented at the annual INC Presidents and Delegates Dinner.

There are four main awards named for some of INC’s finest leaders, all now deceased. The Virginia Oredson Award. Virginia was the secretary of INC for several years in the 1980s and was very active with the Montclair Civic Association. She was a gentle lady with firm ideas about protecting her neighborhood from crime and problem bars as well as encouraging neighborhoods to work together through INC. The Virginia Oredson Award is given to a person who:

♦ Has encouraged Denver neighborhoods or citizens to work together in a common effort to solve community problems.
♦ Has established a record of selfless community service and has encouraged and motivated others to volunteer their services to engage in community improvement.

The Bill Gross Award. Bill was the chair of INC in the early 1990s, was very active as president of the Whittier Neighborhood Association, and was an organizer of the Northeast Denver Congress. His particular passion was building partnerships between neighborhood groups and the Denver police to improve neighborhood safety. The Bill Gross Award is given to a person who:

♦ Has a strong record of working with neighborhoods to better public safety in the community.
♦ Has made Denver a safer place in which to live.

The Walt Kembel Award. Walt was the treasurer of INC in the late 1990s and was active in the Cherry Creek North neighborhood where he constantly and vocally tried to maintain the neighborhood character of smaller, modest homes in the North Cherry Creek area. The Walt Kembel Award is given to a person or group who:

♦ Is an INC delegate or a member of a member RNO.
♦ Has contributed to INC during the past year over and above normal expectations to develop and promote the organization or has moved INC forward in new directions in creative or unexpected ways.

The Nancy Jackson Award. This award is given to a person who has made an outstanding or innovative contribution to the Dollar Dictionary Drive. The contribution can be financial, personal time, public relations, fundraising, et cetera.

The "Neighborhood Stars" Denver Good Neighbor Awards. Neighborhood Stars are nominated by the Board of an INC member RNO. A Neighborhood Star is awarded to a person who has:

♦ Worked individually or with a group to make "Denver a Better Place to Live."
♦ Worked individually or with a group over the past year on a cause or a project that has improved the appearance or the quality of life in their neighborhood.

Send nominations to: AthmarAt-Large@ecentral.com by January 8th.
## INC Member and Associate Organizations

**Member Organizations**
- ABC Streets Assn
- Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn
- Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn
- Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn
- **Ball Park Neighborhood Assn**
- Belcaro Park Homeowners Assn
- Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn
- Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors
- Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Assn
- **Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Inc**
- Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn
- Cherry Hills Vista Community Assn.
- Civic Association of Clayton
- Colfax on the Hill, Inc
- Congress View Neighborhood Assn
- Cook Park Neighborhood Assn
- **Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Assn**
- Cranmer Park Hilltop Civic Assn
- **Crestmoor Park Homeowners Assn**
  - 2nd filing
  - Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc Filing One
- Cultural Arts Residential Org (CARO)
- Curtis Park Neighbors
- East Montclair Neighborhood Assn
- Elyria Neighborhood Assn
- Elyria Swansea/Globeville Business Assn.
- Far Northeast Neighbors, Inc.
- George Washington Homeowner's Assn, Inc.
- Globeville Civic Assn #1
- Golden Triangle Assn. of Denver
- **Golden Triangle Museum District**
  - Greater Mar-Lee Community Org
- **Greater Park Hill Community, Inc.**
- Green Valley Ranch Citizen's Advisory Board
- Hampden Heights Civic Assn
- Harkness Heights Neighborhood Assn
- Highland United Neighbors Inc.
- Hilltop Heritage Assn LLC
  - Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc.
  - Humboldt Street Neighborhood Assn
  - Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point HOA
  - Inspiration Point Neighborhood Assn
  - Ivy Street Neighbors Assn
  - Lighthouse at the Breakers
  - Homeowners Assn
  - **Lower Downtown Neighborhood Assn (LoDoNA)**
  - Lowry Community Master Assn
  - Lowry United Neighborhoods
  - **Master Homeowner Assn for Green Valley Ranch**
  - **Mayfair Neighborhoods, Inc**
  - Mays Fair Park Neighborhood Assn
  - Montbello 20-20
  - Morrison Road Business Association of Denver
  - Neighbors and Friends for Cheesman Park
  - North City Park Civic Assn
  - Northwest Quadrant Assn
  - **Overland Park Neighborhood Assn**
  - Park Forest Homeowner's Assn
  - Platt Park Peoples Assn
  - Rangeview Neighborhood Assn
  - Rosedale Harvard Gulch N.A.
  - Ruby Hill Neighborhood Assn - RHINO
  - Sloan's Lake Neighborhood Assn
  - South City Park Neighborhood Assn
  - South Hilltop Neighborhood Assn
  - **Southmoor Park East Homeowners Assn**
  - Southmoor Park Homeowners Assn
  - **Southwest Improvement Council - SWIC**
  - Stapleton Master Community Assn
  - Stapleton United Neighborhoods
  - Stokes Place Green Bowers HOA
  - Sunnyside United Neighborhoods, Inc
  - The Unsinkables
  - **University Hills Neighborhood Assn**
  - **University Park Community Council**
  - Upper Downtown Development Org
  - Villa Park Neighborhood Assn
  - Virginia Village/Ellis Community Assn
  - Warrens University Community Council

**Associates**
- Bernie Jones PhD
- **Bill Johnston**
- Bonna Gayhart
- Brad & Christine Klafehn
- Cathee Fisher
- Clerk & Recorder Stephanie Y. O'Malley
- Councilman Doug Linkhart
- Councilman Paul Lopez
- **Councilwoman Carla Madison**
- Councilwoman Carol Boigon
- Councilwoman Jeanne Robb
- **Council President Marcia Johnson, Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann**
- Dennis Gallagher, Auditor
- Denver Health Medical Center
- Denver Mayor's Office
- Denver Public Schools
- Denver Water
- **Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.**
- FRESCH
- Gertie Grant
- League of Women Voters of Denver
- Leetsdale COP Shop
- LoDo District Inc.
- Nathan C. Briley
- Rosy Griffiths
- Sandra D. Shreve
- Stephen Griffin
- Vicki Gritters

**2011 members indicated by**

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**INC Member and Associate Organizations (Patrons in Bold) 2 Denver Neighborhood Connection December 2010**
INC's November 13th Delegates Meeting was held at Arrupe Jesuit High School at 4343 Utica Street. After Chair Steve Nissen brought the meeting to order with the assistance of the stentorian summons of Gertie Grant, we were welcomed by President Albert Gallo of Berkley-Regis United Neighbors. Mr. Gallo told us about Tennyson Street First Friday Art Walks occurring every month, replete with wine tasting and food from a plethora of fine restaurants in their corner of Denver.

Albert then introduced Father Tim McMahon, Principal of Arrupe Jesuit, who told us about the school where we were meeting. Father McMahon told us that eight years ago his order of The Society of Jesus (Jesuits) had bought the former Holy Family High School and now Arrupe Jesuit is a very unique model. The School offers college prep schooling for students from families on the "very economic margins of our culture." The average family of five here earns about $33,000. Arrupe takes students from any school and background and most come into the school two to three levels behind where they should be functioning. Father Tim said that "Their goal and their success has been that, for the last four years, 100 percent of their graduates have been accepted into college." He explained that, "If you can afford to come here, you can't come here." Their goal is to serve people who do not have many other options. "Sixty percent of their students are the first in their family to graduate from High School. Ninety percent are the first to fill out a college application." Father Tim explained that Arrupe Jesuit's goal is to break the cycle of marginalization and poverty. They receive no government funding, they are a part of a network of twenty-four schools nationally, and they use a work-study model; every student at Arrupe has a job. So one day a week, each of those students goes off to work at their entry-level job. At school, they adhere to a strict uniform code for both girls and boys. Father Tim described that, at 7:30 a.m. on their workday, the students are bussed by the school to 93 different corporations and are picked up at 4:30 to 5 p.m. Their salaries from these jobs typically cover 70 percent of their tuition. "Our tuition is set at a very modest amount and no student is turned away because their family cannot afford to pay the tuition," said Father Tim. Of course, the differential between what the families can pay and the actual cost has to be made up. Some is done through fundraisers (the school's big one occurs in February). However, a very significant chunk is made up by the school's 97 corporate sponsors whose names and businesses are listed on a wall. He continued that, "It is our partnership with these corporations who give the students real work that makes this model work." The Principal wished we had time to catch their kids in action and hoped we would take time after our meeting to join him in a school tour. He enjoined us to look around our neighborhoods for potential students as the only advertising they do is by "word of mouth." Their current enrollment is 310 students; that is close to their maximum "but we are always looking for new kids to give them this opportunity."

Then Mr. Gallo returned to introduce their Councilwoman, Paula E. Sandoval. She welcomed us to Council District One and told us that there has been a lot going on in District One - for example, the "siting" of the West Side Library at Colfax Avenue and Irving Street. The land has been purchased and the next step is to obtain community input. She pointed out that the issue of Admission-based Events (AB-Events) was one she helped address and that, because of the fact Sloan's Lake Park is mostly a lake and because of the construction currently going on in the park right now, these facts "actually helped us in getting the park taken off the AB-Events list...at least for now." She mentioned a new project, a housing development for the homeless going on further down on Colfax Avenue, that "has not come about without its controversies" and added that they have been working with the nearby businesses to address their concerns. They are considering the placement of a "COP Shop" on the ground level and other measures that could make this project "more acceptable to the community." She thinks this will be something that will actually "spur development." She said that the next big thing would be seeing Saint Anthony Hospital actually moving away from District One and their old site being made available for development. Paula addressed the Federal Boulevard "area of opportunity" being a rather depressed area. She said the Federal Boulevard Partnership has been working to put together a comprehensive plan for that area. All of those things will take time. She admitted that her district has had its share of crime. Neighborhood Inspection Service had been helpful in one area that was in dire need of code enforcement and cleanup. She said that she was proud to have Arrupe Jesuit in her District and was impressed with Father McMahon's strategy to seek students with potential. Paula finished with hope for a speedy economic turnaround that would help not only in her District but all of Denver.

Darryn Zuehlke, head of the City agency that administers the City's franchise contract with Comcast Corporation, whose contract is coming up at the end of 2012, addressed us. He explained that since Comcast uses cables buried under Denver's streets, they must offer compensation for this right of way resource. His agency negotiates a "non-exclusive" contract with Comcast that insures that if other companies wish to come into the City, each will be negotiated with individually. His agency reports directly to City Council. We learned that federal law requires cities "to prove what the needs and interests of their community are." How they must do that is with an "ascertainment process" that is going on now. In February the City will be
holding a series of six workshops, geographically spread about Denver, where citizens will be asked to come and tell what they like about their cable company (general laughter) and he continued, "What you don't like." A question he gave as an example, "How important is it to have 'discounts' for senior citizens or disabled persons?"

His Agency includes Public Education Government Access that includes Denver TV8 (where the gentleman also works) that covers all Council meetings, committee meetings, and shows the operations of the City. Denver's Educational Access Channel 22 is run by Denver Public Schools. A third operation is Public Access run by the non-profit contractor, Denver Open Media. This is a free-speech type of service where any member of the community can learn such things as how to operate cameras, how to work lights, et cetera.

Returning to the cable issue, he told us that Comcast has a large advantage. "Because of the way federal law is written, the power is not with us (that is, local governments) but with the cable companies." He expects that the negotiations with Comcast will likely take a year; he assured us that his agency would take every opportunity to get notices of the public meetings to the people of Denver. He mentioned twice about how little authority was given cities in their dealings with the giant cable companies (Some of us were left wondering if Comcast holds most of the purse strings; must we write the U.S. Congress in order to get Comcast's cooperation for such local needs as money for Denver 8 TV/INC/League of Women Voters of Denver candidates forums?). He closed by praising INC's activism and once again asked for public input with the aim of having "the City aware of your needs and desires during this year-long negotiation between Denver and Comcast for this very important franchise." There was a round of applause for Mr. Zuehlke?

Before we headed into "Around the City," the Chair asked for a motion to approve the last meeting's minutes. Moved by Steve Lawrence and seconded by Jane Lorimer, the minutes were approved unanimously. The microphone was passed for Around the City.

After the break, Gertie Grant informed us that we could now recycle plastic containers with the indicator "5" printed upon them, items "like the giant Starbucks' (make you need to go) containers!" (Cheering)

Then Steve introduced the Manager of Public Safety, Mary Maletesta. She said that she wanted to give us an overview of the three major agencies of her department. She first introduced her "wonderful compatriots" starting with Division Fire Chief Tony Baruman, standing in for newly appointed Fire Chief Eric Tade; Police Chief Gerry Whitman; and representing Corrections, Bill Ease.

In her overview, Mary gave some particulars of her background. She was the Deputy Manager of Safety for four years before she was appointed Manager after the resignation of Ron Perea. During that time she worked with Manager Al LaCabe; she and LaCabe made the "ultimate decisions on discipline for all of our Uniformed Services." Her Department responds to all "critical incidents" such as shootings and "in custody deaths." Along with Manager LaCabe, she was responsible for issuing public statements on such things as officer-involved-shootings. She referred us to the website at DenverGov.org/safety where one can read analysis as well as very detailed descriptions of occurrences; the "reasonableness" of the officer's perception, tactics, and response; as well as a factual history. She said she was a member of the disciplinary reform team whose recommendations would affect the Sheriff's Department as well starting January 1st, 2011. She was Senior Deputy Monitor that includes the Fire Department. She bet we did not know that some arson investigators are armed. One fellow panelist joked "They don't have any bullets." Manager Maletesta told us that she was a prosecutor for sixteen years including eleven years specializing in murder cases. She said she has also really enjoyed teaching attorneys although she has been told, "You can't teach attorneys!" In fact, Mary told us that "long ago" she had worked with our own Michael Henry to develop courses and to create Principles of Professionalism for the Bar Association that were adopted across the Metro area. She and Michael also created a Conciliation Panel (CP) that works to mediate between attorneys who "are just being nasty, not being unethical" with one another but who are hurting their clients in the process. The CP tries to get them "to behave." She introduced Deputy Manager Ashley Kilroy who does Operations and Special Projects such as the Sheriff's Department discipline. Mary said Mel Thompson does Finance and Administration and we have a Human Resources (HR) Director, Willy Tram, who just consolidated HR for all our agencies. They now have technical systems that allow their agencies like Police and Corrections to talk to each other through mobile data terminals in their respective vehicles and offices. They will have a small Fire Academy class in January. Otherwise, there are police cadets and others who are very dedicated and are being patient while waiting for vacancies to occur that will allow them to serve.

A new Division Chief for Denver Fire, Tony Baruman, who currently covers all of their fire investigations, internal investigations, and administration, spoke next. Right now they have ten investigators with a caseload of about 300 cases each. The current arson conviction rate in Denver is about 90 percent. The national average is about 18 percent so he feels very lucky to have dedicated investigators. He is involved with getting grants to improve their technology to catch up with the Police Department. They have a team accessing and inspecting to gain information that will be fed to their fire prevention bureau that, in time, should build a database. The Chief told us that 311 is very helpful; they presently have about 650 referrals where they have responded with a plan for fire safety. George Mayl
Tony said "Roughly 25 percent is arson related." He told us that arson tends to take place in areas where there is little housing and added that, at one point, it was a type of gang initiation where kids would steal a car and take it to vacant land somewhere "like railway easements" to set it afire. He pointed out that when items such as abandoned furniture are left in alleys, they make a natural target for those who just like to see things burn.

Next, Police Chief Gerry Whitman wanted us to know that, "Number One, I am not a candidate." He told us that, just to prove how much he loves us, his alumni C.U. is playing Iowa State right now and "I have chosen to come here to you instead." (Cheering) He said that Brian Maas had reported “the Chief was retiring;” Whitman pointed out that that would be in 2015, still five years from now. One of his Department's big programs is getting citizens involved in the COP Shops and other useful activities through training in Citizen Academies. He has two full-time people in his office working with this program that includes a Spanish Language Academy and a Russian Language Academy. The Russian Graduation was one of the most interesting he had attended. He added, "This is a very cool community." They were giving "neat graduation presents - like big swords!" He lamented that the budget has not permitted Police Academy classes for the last three years and allows for no new police cars. So if we see any new cars, it must be that someone has run into one of the old ones and the insurance company has bought them a new one. He said while you may see peeling paint, the maintenance people manage to keep the fleet running. They have 97 percent of the cars on the road all the time. His Department was asked to cut their budget by nearly $20,000,000 in 2011. Because of hiring people during the Democratic National Convention (DNC), they ended up with 90 extra but did not get the number of retirees they expected so they were overstaffed by about 60 people. So to take the heat off of the General Fund budget, he moved 41 of those cops to the airport. He said the Patrol Division and Denver 911 should stay about the same in 2011. He wants the phone numbers of the Neighborhood Police Officer City-paid phones to be published by our RNOs for non-emergency service. He spoke about the Halo cameras, a very effective crime fighting tool, that the Chief had started before the DNC came to Denver but which gained considerable additional funding because of the convention. More have been added on Colfax Avenue, the Cherry Creek Mall, and outside certain schools. The police are also getting access to some of the cameras in the Denver Public Schools. So he said they have almost 900 cameras they can access. The District Commanders have been moving the cameras around to adjust to crime patterns.

He says, "Yes, Denver has a gang problem and he has 42 full-time and five temporary officers on the gang bureau; this is a big priority to them. "There are career criminals leading the Crips and the Bloods gangs." His officers have been working investigations along with federal authorities; over the last few years they have dismantled several gangs. He addressed the "bad cops" issue and stated that, with over 1,700 employees handling over 300,000 calls and 65,000 arrests a year, they really have very few complaints, percentage wise. He has personally dismissed officers but the vast majority of officers are dedicated and professional.

In Denver, homicides are down 31 percent. Denver has had 22 homicides this year; the Chief can remember years when we had over 100. We have fewer homicides in Denver than in Aurora. Assaults with firearms are down 14 percent, robberies and burglaries are down 9 percent, and overall, crime is down 7.7 percent this year. We have a computer system called Cop Link that cost over $1,000,000; it should be a real boon to fighting crime because it can be accessed by other municipalities thus connecting the different police departments. This system is being turned on now. He addressed medical marijuana telling us he "is not in the business and does not have a card." He says, “This is one of the most confusing pieces of legislation he has seen.” He said Denver bears the most burden caused by the law since so many other Colorado cities have banned dispensaries and growers. However he added that crimes such as robberies connected to these businesses seem to be no more prevalent than liquor store robberies.

Next, Phil Deeds, a Division Chief at the Sheriff's Department in charge of the Downtown Division that includes the Detention Center, spoke. Sheriff Department Director Wilson asked Phil to extend his apologies as he is out of town. He admitted "some growing pains” since the April opening of the new courthouse and detention center. They have a 1,500-prisoner capacity and, as of this morning, are at 1,320 prisoners. He pointed out that this is usually a quiet period for the jailers since, in cold weather, people tend to stay home resulting in fewer landing in jail. (Chuckle) There will be construction going on at the County Jail as part of the bond project. They are about to start demolition of the old buildings and begin the yearlong project for the new facility. He said the staff and indeed the prisoners are pleased at the prospect of the new facilities as the old one at Smith Road is woefully overcrowded. They have a new program called "Productive Day" where the inmates can take video classes in such subjects as “Preparing Resumes,” “Dressing for the Interview,” and “Presenting Oneself at the Interview.” By completing certain segments of this training, the inmates are able to accrue "Good Time." This benefits the prisoner of course but also benefits the City by opening up beds sooner. They are adding input to the Cop Link database by providing information about the prison population such as tattoos and criminal histories to help the other departments with their investigations.

Forbidden by Law
Steve began to read the Delegates questions:

Q- Since citizens are in the front line in the fight against crime, how can we be more effective in our support of the Safety Department?

A- Mary Maletesta took this one and responded, "One of the things I remember from my 16 years as a prosecutors is that, "Some of the best witnesses ever come from citizens who pay attention." So she suggested that, when we see something going on, we should take notes. She added that it really aids in the "back end of the case" to have good observers as witnesses. She passed Chief Whitman the microphone. He said, "I agree." But then he added, "Don't be victims. In order not to be a victim, secure your residence, be aware of your surroundings, and don't leave iPhones, suitcases, or any desirable items visible in your vehicle."

Q- Can anything be done about bicyclists who ignore the rules of the road?

A- Chief Whitman responded that the SWAT team is at the same staff levels as it has been. However, the Neighborhood Officers and police cars have needed to be positioned on "a situational basis."

Q- Since you consolidated human resource services with all your departments, is there consideration of doing the same consolidating with other services such as Dispatch, I.T., and Mechanics?

A- Manager Maletesta responded that they are always looking for areas to save money and said that IT had already been consolidated. The fleets are being studied; however, there are issues of specialized vehicles to consider.

Q- What are we doing in respect to released sex offenders who are homeless? Where will they be housed?

A- Chief Whitman: We are better at tracking the 1,400 offenders we manage. They must give us an address and we check on them - even in the shelters. We have three residences in Denver and there are two in Colorado Springs. These two cities have a higher concentration of offenders than most areas of the state.

The Chair thanked the panelists who were applauded and the meeting turned to Committee Reports.

Then spoke Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee's Michael Henry. He said there would be no ZAP meeting in November but would be on December 18th. Michael said they, along with the Safety Committee, are "keeping a very close eye" on the impending regulations on medical marijuana.

The Chair reminded us that there would be no December Delegates meeting. He had asked the Presidents Dinner Committee to try to expand the dinner attendees from 200 to 300 guests; they are otherwise making progress. The dinner will occur January 26th, 2011. Jane Lorimer rose to tell us of the addition of the Silent Auction as a way to raise money at the dinner for the Dollar Dictionary Drive. She told us of a "crisp, fun," planned program and that more auction items would be most welcome. (See the Executive Committee (EC) Recap on page 7).

The Chair asked the delegates to buy the Macy's discount tickets and pointed out that they could go to Macy’s on their way home.

See the EC Recap for information on the Transportation Committee. However Brad Zieg added that Denver had gotten $85,000,000 for the Interchange Project that is about right for Denver’s share of the National funding.

See the EC Recap for information on the Education Committee. Billie Bramhall added that she would be available after the meeting for volunteers.

Katie Fisher of the Parks and Recreation Committee says they will be returning to the delegation in January with a platform about Denver's parks for members to consider. (See the EC Recap)

Anthony Thomas of the Safety Committee says they too would welcome new members and pointed out that they do not deal solely with police and fire matters but also

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Data Corrections

Keep INC informed of changes in your organization's president and delegates. Notify the membership chair at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

Organizations and persons not affiliated with INC should also communicate their desire to obtain this newsletter or submit address changes to the editor at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.
are concerned with broken sidewalks, trees hanging over power lines, curbs that need cutting to make them wheelchair accessible, and other neighborhood concerns affecting the safety of citizens. Merce Lea also asked for COP Shop volunteers.

Gertie Grant said she was the "Environmental ad hoc Cleanup Committee" and asked for recyclables at the meeting be turned over to her.

City Auditor Dennis Gallagher told us that recently, when he was out in the neighborhoods "being accessible," he was asked if he would run for Mayor; he said, "No, I think someone as Auditor has to be able to tell the new Mayor what's going on." He added that they would be reporting this coming Thursday on the audit of the Ethics Commission that is directed by INC's own Michael Henry, so he is hoping we will "tune in for that one!" Dennis said he was a graduate of this very school (when it was Holy Family High School) and said, "You know who else went here?" Inquiring ears were alert. The answer: "Tom Tancredo, we think he missed a lot of the theology!" The Auditor is, after all, a politician.

Larry Burgess was concerned that marijuana dispensaries and growers would stifle development of other types of businesses in Denver and believes that the "Silent Majority" (editor's note: a group imagined by vice-president Spiro Agnew. The "Vocal Majority" clearly spoke about this issue in a recent election.) needs to be heard from and to "get their hands around this issue." Councilwoman Carol Boigon told us a rule making process was started since the State Board of Health did not do its job. She said, "15 doctors issued 70,000 medical marijuana recommendations over the Internet for cards at $175 a piece." She said now we are waiting for the new regulations to be promulgated under the new mayor. Then she feels we can have a straightforward and honest conversation about the legalization of marijuana.

Randle Loeb said he might be coming from a different perspective than most but that he felt we should be focusing less on punitive actions for substance users and instead work to strengthen the family so that children would not grow up in negative situations that would cause them to turn to any mind numbing substances as they grow to adulthood. Ken Beaudrie weighed in with a case in point: during Prohibition, we forbade the manufacture and sale of alcohol. Who gave Americans what they wanted anyway? It was persons such as Al Capone and his gangster friends. And today, where do we get our illegal marijuana? It's from growers in countries such as Mexico where ruthless drug cartels have spawned. Chair Nissen said, "These are all valid points."

The Chair adjourned us at Noon.

Executive Committee Recap
By Ray Ehrenstein

The November 8th meeting of the INC Executive Committee (EC) was held at 1201 Williams Street on the 19th floor. The meeting was called to order by Chair Steve Nissen at 7:00 p.m. Present also were delegates-at-large Larry Ambrose, William Cornell, Karen Cuthbertson, Ray Ehrenstein, Randle Loeb, George Mayl, and Brad Zieg. As well, we enjoyed the company of committee chairs/co-chairs Ken Beaudrie, Billie Bramhall, Michael Henry, Merce Lea, and Anthony Thomas.

We approved the last EC Meeting's Minutes (on a motion by Randle with second by Larry) and the September's Treasurer's Report (motion by Randle with second by Brad), both unanimously, after Karen agreed with Steve that $583.80 will be transferred from Dictionary to checking in our treasury. The October Treasurer's report was not available. On a motion by Randle with second by George, we agreed to allow a CD to roll over in our saving account when it comes due in December.

Karen told us that the Presidents Dinner Committee met on Halloween. She then introduced her fellow committee members Larry Ambrose, Jane Lorimer, and Susan Morrison. They showed us a draft form to solicit business sponsorships. They also proposed that we charge $35.00 for non-INC RNO presidents and guests to attend; the fee would include RNO membership. Jane and Susan have considerable experience conducting silent auctions and are excited to do this part. The committee had also discussed having an emcee like Ed Greene or Andrew Romanoff but recommended dispensing with a key-note speaker in favor of people wandering around visiting as they peruse the silent auction articles. Larry recognized a jazz guitar player, Neil Haverstick, where his committee was meeting; he later joined them and offered to play at the Presidents Dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 and then again from 8:00 to 9:00 at the close for $300.00. George recommended the Colorado Jazz Workshop as possible music providers; they would work for food. The Dinner Committee will consider both suggestions. Michael Henry pointed out that it is very important to have the musician(s) carefully placed so as to be heard and not completely drowned out by guest conversations. Many felt this concern was especially apropos if we are having a solo guitarist. Karen agreed; she is in touch with Anthony Graves and the people at Doubletree Hotel and this matter will be addressed. Also, we can have an area next to the ballroom proper for the silent auction to be set up. Jane Lorimer wanted it made clear that the money raised from the silent auction is meant strictly for the Dollar Dictionary Drive (DDD). The sponsorships and $35.00 dinner/membership fee collections can go towards our dinner budget.
Chair Nissen produced the Macy's 10-percent off coupons that we agreed will be made available at the upcoming INC Delegate's Meeting on Saturday, November 13th, the same day of Macy's sale. We shall then enjoin the Delegates to buy the coupons and enjoy the discount immediately. As George suggested, following Saturday's meeting the Delegates should "---leave here and go there."

Jane Lorimer spoke of the committee's plan to introduce a silent auction to help raise money for the DDD. We all hope for enough funding to give all the DPS third-graders both dictionaries and thesauruses in 2011. There are items worth $3,000 already available for the auction. Susan Morrison ascertained that we would in fact be aiming towards 300 hundred invitees, a larger attendance than the 200 in 2010. Karen told us that Anthony Graves is only going to pay for 200 guests; we must fund the rest. Larry moved and Randle seconded to approve $3,300 for the INC's extra cost. The motion carried with one abstention. Jane said Strings Restaurant had given one item for the silent auction, Billie offered to contact Dazzle, and it was agreed that any auction items gained should be sent to Jane. Any business sponsorships should be directed to Larry. Susan suggested that we connect with our individual RNOs for more items for the auction. We thanked Jane and Susan.

Billie of the Education Committee wants additional people on the Education Committee, especially people with kids in school and anyone representing additional schools and parts of the City. She received a phone call about Byers School as a candidate for one of Denver's five Denver School of Science and Technology (DSST) schools. Michael Henry said Chris Nevitt is coming to the next ZAP meeting and suggested that Billie's committee join with the ZAP Committee to discuss the Byers situation. We all wanted to know why the $8,300,000 earmarked for Byers was never given? According to Karen, Nevitt when asked responded, "The fine print." We look forward to seeing Michael is also rounding up volunteers to work on the new Neighborhood Guidebook on Tuesday, November 16th, 7 p.m., at Michael's apartment. George reported that the Zoning Board had met regarding the two properties used for very short-term rentals in residential neighborhoods; they were ruled illegal, the Board would continue a cease-and-desist order, and that there would be no extensions issued.

The new INC Brochure will be addressed by Karen now that she has some time and she will send out the language to us all.

Will Cornell presented a voluminous Web Site and Social Media Development document and explained that the items discussed therein were not just about web site developers but also included Internet marketing firms. He showed us boxes of gum that were marketing devices. He highlighted organizations that develop web sites such as Denver City Webolutions, Madlab in Louisvile, and Open Media Foundation (a less costly non-profit that will help with training to develop and maintain the website). Open Media Foundation is the outfit that hosts local TV stations like KGNU in their building. His pamphlet has costs listed for a static website as compared to a content management system (CMS) website. Will said that Webolutions spent five hours with him and discussed development of a Mar-
The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m. All agreed.

We learned from Ken that most all of Denver's actually legitimate and recognizable Registered Neighborhood Organizations are members of INC. He pointed out that many of the rest of the "so called" neighborhood organizations are composed of individuals or partnerships that do not even meet regularly with the communities they purport to represent. So it would seem our INC umbrella organization consisting of eighty-nine RNOs (as well as most public officials who are associates) reaches across the length and breadth of Denver and thus INC is very representative of Denver's City Council Districts, neighborhoods, and people. No one disputed this assertion.

There was a discussion of what the new or current meaning of "marketing" is in media or web sites. Larry thinks we should give our support to William and apply for Open Media. The deadline for applying is March 15th, 2011. Michael would like to know how this is better than what we have at present and Ken wants to compare this with Karen's already developed website as well. The Chair thanked Will for his presentation.

New business: There are no speakers scheduled for January, February, or March; we will work to find some. We would like to have our candidate’s forum in April and will work with Channel 8 and the League of Women Voters of Denver to make this happen. Anthony feels that we need to schedule Acting Mayor Bill Vidal in there somewhere. All agreed.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Athmar Park N.A. – The public art portion of the Alameda Square Shopping Center (ASSC) redevelopment is underway. It is going to be a flock of flying geese. The artist is constructing the sculpture on-site and is welcoming guests. So if you are visiting Lowe’s or one of the restaurants at ASSC, stop by and watch the art develop in the shop nearest to Lowe’s.

Baker Historic N.A. – Our new meeting place at Hersfeld Tower is working well. We now meet on odd numbered months.

Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors (BRUN) – Our Annual Members Meeting will occur on January 25th at the Willis Case Golf Course clubhouse. In addition, we recently received a $100,000 grant from OED for Chavez Park on Tennyson Street. Join us for Jingle Mingle on Tennyson Street from December 1st to the 12th.

Cory-Merrill N.A. – Much thanks for INC’s support against short-term rentals; the Board of Adjustment ruled against less than 30-day rentals. This is a plus for residential neighborhoods wanting to raise their children in a safe environment.

Elyria Swansea/Globeville Business Assn. – Medical marijuana dispensaries/growers need to get strong oversight by the City of Denver and the State of Colorado. Presently, there are over 120,000 medical marijuana card-holders in Colorado, 90-percent of them obtained the cards for leisure usage. The location of these dispensaries/growers needs to have space and location criteria for facilities such as residential, schools, etcetera.

George Washington H.O.A. (GWHOA) – GWHOA welcomed a new principal at George Washington High School, Mrs. Loan Mass. She has addressed security issues by enforcing ID badges, dress codes, and parental involvement. She has introduced new thoughts for a stronger curriculum.

Golden Triangle Assn. of Denver – Private development slowed the Justice Center; the City completed the effort. The State Judicial Center is underway. All is well!

Golden Triangle Museum District (GTMD) – W.E. Sisty, Denver’s first Chief of Police, was given a new tombstone at Riverside and will be a figurehead for the development of a new museum for the Denver Police Department in the GTMD. The annual Denver Plein Aire Arts Festival is in residence on the seventh floor of the Denver Public Library through December 31st.

Harkness Heights N.A. – Harkness Heights is making plans for the 20th Annual Luminaria Night, our neighborhood fundraiser in December. We are meeting this Wednesday, November 17th, for happy-hour at Billy’s Inn.

Lowry United Neighborhoods – We are getting ready for a 2011 Speaker’s Series; more information will be available in January but the dates are January 26th, March 2nd, and April 6th. For more information, contact Sally at SallyK@ecentral.com. We are also making “goody packs” for Colorado service people in Afghanistan. We are hoping to get dozens of boxes with sunscreen, hard candy, batteries, books, cards, etcetera to cheer them.
Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) – SUN recently held a kickball tournament to raise money for the March of Dimes. A transit-oriented development around the P3 commuter rail from downtown to the airport is in the planning stages. SUN hosted a forum on social justice and the redevelopment of Brownfields. SUN also approved the development of 75 income-qualified homes.

Denver Recycles
By Tom Strickland

Treecycle 2011: It’s as Easy as Can Be!
Your Christmas tree gave you so much joy over the holidays; now give it a second life by recycling it with Denver’s Treecycle program. All trees collected through the program will be turned into mulch to be given away to Denver residents in the spring. Denver residents should set out their Christmas trees from January 3rd to January 14th.

1. Remove all decorations and the tree stand. Sorry, no artificial or flocked trees; real trees only.
2. Dumpster service customers should place their Christmas tree out for recycling on either Monday, January 3rd, or Monday, January 10th. Do not place a tree in a dumpster; trees should be placed at least four feet away from a dumpster. Barrel and manual service customers should place their Christmas tree out for recycling on their normal trash day between January 3rd and 14th.
3. Reclaim free mulch made from your tree on Saturday, May 7th, 2011 at Denver’s Mulch Giveaway and Compost Sale.

Denver Recycles encourages better recycling, one cup at a time. Denver residents can now recycle plastic #5 cups and tubs. Denver Recycles participants can simply place clean yogurt cups and other plastic tubs, marked with the #5, in their purple residential recycling cart. Plastic #5 cups and tubs are typically used for yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, butter, and margarine. Please check to make sure these items have #5 on them and remember to remove lids and foil tops.

Denver Recycles will collect and deliver the materials to a regional recycling facility for sorting and processing. From there, this plastic can be repurposed for various products including toothbrushes, new food packaging, and even traffic lights. The addition of plastic #5 cups and tubs to Denver’s recycling program was made possible through the cooperative efforts of Yoplait®, Waste Management, and the City of Denver. The goal of the program is expand the materials accepted through the Denver Recycles program and to raise awareness of recycling in Denver.

Gang Reduction Funds
The City of Denver recently received more than $2 million in federal grant funding in support of the Gang Reduction Initiative of Denver (GRID). The grant, Community-Based Violence Prevention Demonstration Program, is available January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013 and totals $2,215,787.

The GRID model is unique in design for violence prevention, incorporating and balancing proven strategies of suppression, intervention, and prevention. Project goals of the GRID include:
- changing community norms regarding violence,
- providing alternatives to violence, and
- increasing awareness of the perceived risks and costs of involvement in violence among high-risk young people.

The grant comes with support from a federal evaluator who will assist Denver with technical and planning strategies. While this type of support typically is paid for out of the grant funding with estimates at close to $250,000, Denver is receiving this service free.

Funding will also allow for the expansion of GRID in three target neighborhoods, Westwood, Five Points, and Northeast Park Hill, as well as support the necessary infrastructure to implement the suppression and intervention strategies.

Census Participation Rate
The City of Denver recently received its final mail participation rate for the 2010 Census. Denver reached its goal of 75 percent return; that exceeds the statewide and national rates of 72 and 74 percent respectively. This is significant because, while mail participation rates are decreasing nationally, Denver experienced a 5% increase over the 2000 Census.

As one of the 25 most undercounted cities in the 2000 Census, Denver experienced a loss of over $74 million in funding. As a result, the City of Denver increased awareness efforts during the 2010 Census.

The final Census numbers will be presented to the President by December 31st and will be made available to local communities about two months after that.

From the Chair
By Steve Nissen

I trust that all have happily survived the annual Thanksgiving holiday. As we look forward to the holiday seasons of Christmas and New Year, INC extends the best of holiday wishes to all our members and readers. Stay safe and stay happy as we need you in good spirits for all the neighborhood challenges of the coming year.

As the year winds down, we are reflecting on the last few months as well as preparing for our annual event in January. The INC Presidents and Delegates Dinner will be in the Doubletree Hotel Grand Ballroom, 3203 Quebec Street. A silent auction and the cash bar opens at 5 p.m.
We are amassing a fine array of quality items and services for our first silent auction benefiting the Dollar Dictionary Drive. Dinner will begin at 6:30 and the annual awards presentation will be at 7 p.m. Attendance is by invitation that will be mailed out shortly. We urge you to r.s.v.p. promptly as we have only 300 seats available. If you do not receive an invitation and feel you should have, contact Karen Cuthbertson or myself (contact information is on the last page of this newsletter).

This annual event is a great opportunity to acknowledge and recognize the many efforts of neighborhood folks who have dedicated themselves to maintaining a great quality of life in our neighborhoods, citywide. Individuals and non-member RNOs are invited to become members and share in this celebration. We welcome you to become a part of the ongoing effort to maintain tranquility and a great quality of life in our neighborhoods, citywide. Unsuspecting issues frequently creep up on us and your commitment of your time, your eyes and ears, and your voice are needed in the general dialogue of resolution.

I ask all members and readers to consider nominating that hero, unsung or otherwise, from your neighborhood to be a recipient of one of the many awards presented; see page one for award criteria. Nominations must be received by January 8th so the awards can be ordered and received in time for the event.

As this year of many issues winds down, another year of public interest gears up. The Mayor’s Office, some City Council seats, and possibly other offices as well will be up for election in May. As we are inundated with information and glad-handing during the next several months, let us be mindful of the importance of these positions. Candidates will be reaching out for your support. Do not be shy about asking for their support and serious commitment for the things that are needed to make your neighborhood more vibrantly livable. INC leadership, the League of Women Voters of Denver, and Channel 8 have already had a planning session for upcoming candidate forums. More sessions are in store and the details of the forums will be announced as they are finalized.

The January 8th Delegates Meeting will be hosted by the Green Valley Citizens’ Advisory Board at the new DPS facility, the Evie Garrett Dennis Campus in Green Valley Ranch.

Happy Holidays from all of us at INC.

The INC Parks and Recreation Committee (INCPR) met on November 16th at the Heritage Club, 2020 South Monroe Street. Present were co-chairs Larry Ambrose and Katie Fisher as well as Cathy Donohue, Ray Ehrenstein, Dave Felice, Diana Helper, Cindy Johnstone, Maggie Price, James Samples, Michael Smilanic, guest Ronnie Crawford, and Angela Cassias from the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).

Angela reported that Open Air Cinema had canceled its contract to present movies in Denver in the summers of 2011 and 2012; it had not obtained sufficient sponsorship. She also reported that the Dog Park Master Plan would be on the DPR website by the end of the year.

Angela announced that a fee-schedule for Admission Based Events (ABEs) is proposed and would be presented to City Council for approval as follows: A charge of one and one-half times the normal permit fee, plus an additional 15 percent on ticket sales—7.5 percent to the park hosting the event and 7.5 percent to the general park maintenance fund. A seat tax is charged when the event has live, paid entertainment; Treasury decides if a seat tax applies. (INCPR will be contacting Council and attend the public hearing.)

INCPR members had concerns regarding equity across parks and City Council Districts, believing that all money should go to the general DPR maintenance fund to be properly distributed where needed throughout the Denver Park System. Cindy pointed out that ABE event-fees opens up the door to charge the many races, walks, pet events, and classes taking place in public parks. They too are actually ABEs because those involved charge participants and do not allow empres to participate while other citizens may not use the space taken up by the event or activity or certain event areas. The idea that merely having a fence around an area is reason to charge a percentage of revenue seems illogical. These events generate millions of dollars using Denver's parks, and as they also charge people to participate, eventually someone will assert that they should pay DPR based on the ABE fee schedule. This includes commercial groups such as “Boot Camps” and exercise classes that charge participants and do not allow...
other citizens to use their space. Angela reported that although ABEs will not be scheduled until the fee schedule is approved by Council, there is currently a waiting list for ABEs. INCPR asked DPR for a list of these ABE requests.

Angela reported that the new Vending Policy would be presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) on February 10th when PRAB will decide if a public hearing is needed in March. If so, the decision will be made in April. She asked to speak to INC on January 8th. INCPR requests that information be available to INC delegates in the January INC newsletter to assure informed discussion. When citizens hold sales events in the parks, buying a “table” to sell their wares, at present none of the sales money goes to Parks, only to the vendor. It was suggested that such situations be treated like events where revenue is generated.

Ronnie Crawford, from Overland Park Neighborhood Association, said the irrigation system at Overland Pond Park needs work. Angela explained such needs are met as priority projects, often promoted by the Councilperson and reviewed by DPR. She will check into this to see if the improvement project is listed. Many construction and engineering problems at Sloan’s Lake Park (Marina, etcetera) were detailed by Larry, showing a need for better planning on the part of DPR and its consultants.

Other topics included status of the Notification Policy, City Park traffic circulation plan, Open Air snowboard event sponsors, and thoughts on staff shifts when the new Mayor is elected. Angela stated that ABE business has been first priority and other matters may be set aside for the moment.

INCPR went through the draft of “INC Platform for Denver’s City Parks” with edits and revisions, and Larry will contact Kathleen Wells, who wrote the original draft but was out of town. Hopefully, a revised draft will be distributed to INCPR committee members for approval before going to the INC Executive Committee in December and then to the INC Delegates meeting on January 12th for discussion and approval. It is intended to be a position statement for consideration by the candidates for Mayor and City Council.

Dollar Dictionary Drive
By Cathee Fisher

Is this the beginning or the end? For the third-graders of Denver Public Schools, it is a beginning. They are beginning a journey of reading to learn rather than learning to read. As we all know, they will find words that need clarification. Yes, they can ask Mom or Dad, but "look it up in the dictionary" might be the response. Our Denver kids have had a dictionary resource since 1996 thanks to your community support.

As we wind down the 15th year of the Dictionary Drive and prepare for next year’s third-graders, the best thank you you comes from the students themselves. For example:

Dear Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation:
Thank you for the dictionary.
I love the periodic table of the elements.
I like the musty smell that I smell when I open it.
I never had a dictionary of my own before.
I like looking for big words.
I enjoy playing dictionary with my family.
My book is cool, I love it.
I am going to save my book forever.
I can be smart with this book.
It will make my writing better.
I used it for spelling words and for looking up words.
I can use them every day.
I love the ruler, the space, the president, the map, the multiplication table, the calendar, and the sign language.
I am going to use them in middle school, high school, and college.
Thank you a lot!

A BIG supercalifragilisticexpialidocious THANK YOU TO ALL. Donations are dedicated to the Dictionary Drive and are tax deductible.

INC Dictionary Drive
PO Box 18347, Denver, CO 80218
www.neighborhoodlink.com/INC/home

Renew RNO Status
By Julius Zsako

Neighborhood Organizations wishing to re-register with Denver, as required each year by ordinance, may do so at this time. Please note that re-registration is conditional upon meeting the ordinance requirement that all groups “shall hold meetings at which all members may vote, not less than once in each calendar year. A list of those attending the annual meeting shall be kept and at least twelve members must be in attendance at said annual meeting.”

If there have been no changes in the information required and your group has met the minimum meeting requirement, you may re-register through an email to me at Denver Community Planning and Development requesting continued registration for your organization in the coming year. Deadline for re-registration is January 31, 2011.

You can view your group’s current information on the Denver Maps feature of the DenverGov website at the following link: www.denvergov.org/denvermaps/report.asp?rpt=norg&cat=cprop&me=3106976,1644364,3255209,1761837 Due to a high volume of traffic on Denver Maps, it may take up to 30 seconds for the page to appear.

Persons wishing to register a new organization may do so by contacting Julius Zsako at 720-865-2969.
Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
2011 Membership Application

INC is a consortium of Denver neighborhood representatives who believe that neighborhood organizations deserve a greater participation in city government and possess a shared vision that individual neighborhoods are stronger when they work together and learn from one another. **To join as a member neighborhood organization, the organization must be registered with the city as a Registered Neighborhood Organization. Log on to Denvergov.org for details. The names of Patron members and associates are listed in bold in our newsletter.**

We wish to donate $___________ to the Dollar Dictionary Drive.

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**Join as a voting neighborhood organization: Regular Member ($35) [ ] Patron ($75) [ ]
See below to apply as an INC Associate**

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**Join as a non-voting supporting Associate: Regular ($20) [ ] Patron ($75) [ ]**

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**Send newsletter via: E-mail [ ] U.S. Mail [ ] Don’t want newsletter [ ]**

Bring this form to an INC meeting or mail to:
Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, PO Box 181009, Denver, CO 80218-1009

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We wish to donate $___________ to the Dollar Dictionary Drive.
There is no December meeting of the Delegation.

Enjoy the holidays!

There is no December Meeting!

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
P.O. Box 181009
Denver, CO 80218-1009

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Colfax on the Hill, Inc.