

Forward Chicago is a grassroots all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit that connects neighbors, businesses and local organizations to build a stronger community. Together, we're creating a neighborhood where people of all ages are active, engaged and influential.

2017 - A Blank Slate

We keep hearing about livable communities... places for all ages, neighborhoods where transit, walkability, and things to do are abundant. Green spaces, safe spaces, open spaces and more. Yet what does it all mean? And how do we get there?

One of the things that research continues to show is that no matter how good your neighborhood is, if you don't get out and get connected you become lonely, isolated and often depressed. And even more research shows that the physical and psychological impact of loneliness is tremendous. That means we need to (even in winter) get ourselves out and connected with interests, people and things that light up our lives. And if we don't know what they are anymore, or we are bored with the same old things, we need to take a leap and try something new.

Forward Chicago has led efforts to connect our community for years. Driven by volunteers, we have ignited interests, provided opportunities for people to make new friends and try new things and shown the power of people working together for something they care about. We have enriched the experience of aging in an already vibrant community.

2016 was a tremendous success. Tana D. continued to lead our Bridge group and began a Great Decisions Discussion Group that ran for 9 weeks, touching on



topics from all over the world. Pat W. spearheaded our first ever historic site scavenger hunt, "Where in the Square?", to honor the wonderful history of our neighborhood. This event brought together all ages and the hidden history around us. We can't wait to do it again next year! Jerry P. (our Facebook Guru) and the Walking Club walked all year, throughout our neighborhoods. We welcomed the return of the #11 Lincoln bus and will continue to fight for expanded and ongoing service in the new year.

Livable community... we are one. We're making the neighborhoods for our future, and we want you to join us. As the year ends and we reflect on the importance of our neighbors, our sense of community and the work we do for tomorrow, our mission has never seemed more crucial. Please join us by donating, coming to events and volunteering – we can't wait to see you! 2017 is a blank slate – let's start coloring outside the lines.



ForwardChicago

Holiday Potluck

Friday, December 9 | 6:00-8:30pm

Bring a dish to share, BYOB & RSVP.

Location: St Matthias Convent – 4927 N Claremont
Free parking in lot north of convent

Optional:

Toys for Tots. Please bring an unwrapped, new toy (we are focusing on boys aged 10-14).



Craft Circle

Knitters, quilters, embroiderers, all are welcome. Some months we have guest speakers, and other months we work on projects together.

Third Wednesdays: 10:30am-12:00pm

Dates: **Dec 21 Holiday Party & make festive wreaths, Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 15**

Location: Sulzer Library, 4455 N Lincoln Ave – Auditorium



Lunch Bunch

Join us for lunch and conversation. We dine at all types of great local restaurants. \$14-\$18 covers the meal, tax and tip.

Third Thursdays (RSVP): 12:00-1:30pm

Dec 15 Holiday Party Lady Gregory's, 5260 N Clark

Jan 19 No Event

Feb 16 Bien Mi Sabe, 1637 W Montrose Ave

Mar 16 Noon O Kabob, 4661 N Kedzie



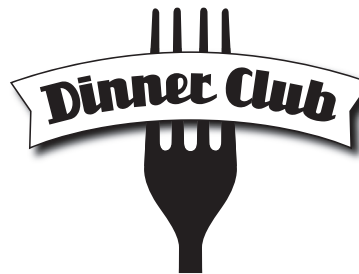
Ideas Into Action

This is where ideas come to life. We identify, plan and create programs and initiatives. If you are a thinker or doer, join us!

Third Saturdays: 9:00–10:30am

Dates: **Dec & Jan** (no meeting), **Feb 18, Mar 18**

Location: St. Matthias Convent – 4927 N Claremont (Free parking in lot)



Dinner Club

You said you want to get together for dinner with your neighbors... Join us as we explore BYOB restaurants and be sure to bring a friend. Price \$25-\$35.

Second Thursdays (RSVP): 6:00-8:00pm

Dec 9 Holiday Potluck (see above)

Jan No Event

Feb 9 Mixteco Grill, 1601 W Montrose

Mar 9 Café Orchid, 1746 W Addison

Board+PLUS

EVERYONE WELCOME

4th Tuesdays (no Dec or Jan) Feb 28, Mar 28
4:00-5:45pm at Gideon Wells (4300 N Lincoln)

Activate ★ Engage ★ Influence

Call or RSVP 773-633-8312 ★ info@forwardchicago.org

Find us on [facebook.com/forwardchicago](https://www.facebook.com/forwardchicago)

www.forwardchicago.org

Programming

**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS**

Begins
March 12



Walking Club

We walk when the weather is fair. We don't walk in the rain or ice. Check the website or FC Facebook page by 9am for updates.

Tuesdays: 10:00am sharp
Location: Welles Park Gazebo



Games People Play

Interested in learning or playing bridge? Join Tana along with 4 tables of bridge players whose skill level is beginner to expert. Bring a sandwich.

First & Third Fridays: 10:00am–1:00pm
Dates: **Dec 2 & 16, Jan 6 & 20, Feb 3 & 17, Mar 3 & 17**
Location: Sulzer Library, 4455 N Lincoln Ave – Community Room (No meeting if Library is closed)

Root, Root, Root for the Cubbies

The Cubs are coming back in 2017 and so are we. We've reserved tickets for 3 home games (dates TBD) – In February, call or email to get on the list and to help organize!

Our Wish List

As a volunteer non-profit organization, we don't need much, but we do need some things. Please keep us in mind for financial or in-kind donations to support:

- Meeting & office space
- Printed newsletter
- Telephone
- New initiatives
- Database



New Life for Old Bags

All ages and abilities will work together to make plastic grocery bags into sleeping mats for the homeless. Bring your flattened, clean plastic bags, a friend and your enthusiasm! All tools and refreshments provided.

Date: Saturday, March 25

Time: 10:30am-2:00pm

Location: Sulzer Library, 4455 N Lincoln Ave – Auditorium

Science Speaker Series



From Bugs to the Big Bang

Come hear cool science talks at Sulzer Library. We'll hear University of Chicago scientists discuss their latest research.

Tuesdays: 6:00-7:30pm

Dates: **Feb 28** *Science at the South Pole*, Erik Shirokoff

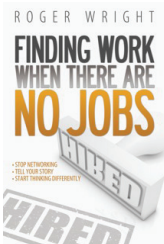
Mar 28 *Science and Star Trek*, Sam Passaglia

Location: Sulzer Library, 4455 N Lincoln Ave, Community Room

ForwardChicago

Community Business Connections

Forward Chicago is thankful for our local Business Connections who share our commitment to community. Our website contains detailed information so that you can shop locally and support them. Let them know you heard about them from Forward Chicago. You will find Forward Chicago materials at these locations.



The Forward Chicago Community Ambassador Team

Board: Dara S, Helene W, Karen KF

Facebook Guru: Jerry P. (like us on Facebook!)

Walking Club: Jerry P.

Website Maven: Elaine T.

Dinner & Lunch Hosts: Pat G. & Pat W.

Community Bloggers: Jean A., Jeff R., Dara S.

Community Business Connections: Lenore K.

Craft Circle: Betty R. & Maureen L.

Ideas Into Action: Mary Ann I.

Games People Play: Tana D.

Videographer Extraordinaire: Sylvia S.

Newsletter Manager: YOUR NAME HERE

Activate ★ Engage ★ Influence

Call or RSVP 773-633-8312 ★ info@forwardchicago.org

Find us on **facebook**.com/forwardchicago

December 2016 - March 2017