

## SPRING IS ALMOST HERE!



March 20<sup>th</sup> marks the first day of spring. I know that with Chicagoland weather, the difference between spring and winter is a little arbitrary, but hey! Still nice! Hello Volunteers! Welcome to this month's Volunteer Newsletter. Every month I'll fill you in on:

- **News at the Trust**
  - Updates from the Trust regarding events or operations
- **Upcoming Events**
  - Events in the Chicagoland area related to art, history, architecture, and of course, Frank Lloyd Wright
- **Other News**
  - Any other updates and pieces of news that are relevant to our volunteers

As always, please submit any suggestions, events, or news to me at [cjansen@flwright.org](mailto:cjansen@flwright.org).



### NEWS AT THE TRUST:

#### GET READY FOR WRIGHT PLUS 2023!!!

We're hoping you're as excited about Wright Plus as we are! Wright Plus needs LOTS of volunteers in a variety of roles – we're hoping you'll be one of those volunteers. Here's what to look for:

**Tuesday, March 7:** Look for the READY email which will have more details about Wright Plus and volunteer teams! If you didn't receive it please check your SPAM/junk folder. If it's still missing send your name and email

address to [volunteer@flwright.org](mailto:volunteer@flwright.org) Also, if you have family and/or friends you'd like to volunteer with please have them send their name and email address to [volunteer@flwright.org](mailto:volunteer@flwright.org)

**Tuesday, March 14:** Look for the SET email! It will also contain Wright Plus details and information about the volunteer teams. If you didn't get this email, please check your SPAM/junk folder. If it's still missing send your name and email address to [volunteer@flwright.org](mailto:volunteer@flwright.org)

**Tuesday, March 21:** Look for the GO email! It will have the Wright Plus volunteer sign-up link. Remember, you cannot submit your survey until 8:00 pm. All teams will be filled on a first come – first served basis so make sure to sign up promptly as we anticipate some teams will fill quickly.

**Wright Plus questions?** Contact chairs Sue Blaine ([sueblaine@comcast.net](mailto:sueblaine@comcast.net)) or Joan Pantsios ([jpantsios@earthlink.com](mailto:jpantsios@earthlink.com))



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

We know that our volunteers have a wide variety of interests. Curated here are some upcoming events related to history, art, architecture, Chicago, and Frank Lloyd Wright that you may be interested in.

In honor of **Women's History Month**, this month's events calendar focuses on women in history, the arts, and writing.

## MARCH:

### TALIESIN PRESERVATION:

- **MARCH 14 – 6:30-7:30: A Brave and Lovely Woman Virtual Book Release**
  - “Join Taliesin Preservation, University of Wisconsin Press, and author, Mark Borthwick on March 14th, from 6:30 pm- 7:30 pm (CT) for the virtual release of A Brave and Lovely Woman. The evening will start with a presentation, followed by an audience Q+A.”
  - <https://www.taliesinpreservation.org/event/a-brave-and-lovely-woman-virtual-book-release/>

## GLESSNER HOUSE:

- **MARCH 16 – 7:00-8:00: ONLINE – Women’s Work at the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition**
    - *“This talk will explore the contributions of women to the 1893 world’s fair. It will examine the work of Bertha Palmer and the Board of Lady Managers, the protest of Ida B. Wells, the design of the Woman’s Building by architect Sophia Hayden, and the Congress of Representative Women, staged as part of the World’s Congress Auxiliary.”*
    - Zoom. \$12, \$10 for members
    - <https://www.glessnerhouse.org/programs/womens-work-at-the-1893-worlds-columbian-exposition>
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## APRIL:

### FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT TRUST:

- **April 4 – 6:00-7:00: Maginel Wright Enright Barney’s The Wright Family**
  - Part Two of our 2023 line-up of Volunteer Enrichment Events! This time, we’ll take an in-depth look at a pastel from Maginel Wright Enwright Barney and follow it with a guided discussion, hosted at our own Home & Studio. We hope to see you there!

Maginel was Frank Lloyd Wright’s younger sister, and a gifted artist in her own right.

Oak Park Home and Studio, 951 Chicago Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302,  
@ 6:00 PM

### MADISON STREET BOOKS:

- **APRIL 13 – 7:00-8:00: Connie Fairbanks in conversation with Susan Imus**
  - Our very own Connie Fairbanks will be talking with Susan Imus about Fairbanks’ book, *Chicago’s West Loop, Then and Now: People, Businesses, and Buildings*. There will be a short interview, questions, and book signing on Thursday, April 13 from 7 - 8pm at Madison Street Books at 1127 W. Madison Street. Come meet your neighbors

and learn more about your historic neighborhood. More info about the book below.

**Know anything cool coming up in the next few months? Email me so I can add it in an upcoming newsletter!**



## **OTHER NEWS:**

### **ADD A NEW TOUR TO YOUR REPERTOIRE**

Feel like expanding your FLW knowledge and adding another tour to your repertoire? In addition to certifying at one of our locations, you can volunteer for any of the following specialty tours:

#### **OAK PARK HOME AND STUDIO:**

- POP Pedal Oak Park (we will provide training wheels if needed 😊)
- Forest Ave. Guided Neighborhood Walking Tour
- Wright Around Oak Park
- Step on Bus Tour: a guided bus tour of Oak Park (60 min., we provide the bus + microphone)

#### **ROBIE HOUSE:**

- In-Depth tour

#### **UNITY TEMPLE:**

- In-Depth tour

#### **ROOKERY:**

- Rookery Light Court Guided Tour (30 minutes long) at 10am on Monday on Wednesday, 10/11/12/1 on Tuesday/Thursday/Friday.
- Rookery Light Court and Burnham Library Guided Tour (60 minutes long). This is offered at 11/12/1 on Monday and Wednesday.

#### **OTHER BUS TOURS:**

- Wright Around Chicago
- New name for Wright Along the Lake: Wright in the City

**If any of these looks like something you'd be interested in, please reach out to me at [cjansen@flwright.org](mailto:cjansen@flwright.org)**

## **CHICAGO'S WEST LOOP, THEN AND NOW**

Our very own **Connie Fairbanks** has written a book, ***Chicago's West Loop, Then and Now: People, Businesses, and Buildings***:

'Against the backdrop of a bustling and dynamic global city, cranes dot the sky, jack hammers demolish "solid as a rock" walls, and bulldozers move tons of bricks out of the way on The Near West Side of Chicago, now known as (The West Loop). The transformation of this area over time has been nothing less than captivating. Vacant parking lots, once home to vaudeville acts, became glossy 19-story apartments. Empty buildings that once housed cutlery stores, meat packing rooms, printing companies, and multi-level office buildings have been demolished-common brick by common brick. Some of these bakery supply buildings (or other businesses) have been re-purposed into opulent condos, luxury sofa stores, or restaurants with owner-chefs calling upstairs home.

'What once was a manufacturing and wholesale warehouse area in the late 1890's -1950's, a fashionable place to live on Ashland Avenue for the "movers and shakers "of Chicago, and later Skid Row on Madison Street, is again where we want to live, work, and play. Corporate America has set up shop in The West Loop, and many of the Union headquarters have stayed put for decades. Meet the pioneers of then and now, learn about a variety of businesses that supplied products during war time, help protect us at the 911 Emergency Communications Center, train our policemen, and see the eye-catching architectural wonders still standing in The West Loop. Read these engaging and timeless stories by Chicago-based researcher Connie Fairbanks in a new 246-page book complete with a collection of more than 150 photos that capture the essence of this areas transformation and brings you back in time in this most dynamic part of the city.'

Check it out: <https://www.conniefairbanks.com/>

## **Barbara Ballinger and the Legacy of Frank Lloyd Wright: A History and a Tribute**

Our own Bob Trezevant wrote this wonderful tribute to the great Barbara Ballinger. Ballinger passed away November 14, 2022, after leaving an indelible impact on Oak Park and beyond. Her role in preserving Frank Lloyd Wright's legacy in Oak Park is significant and vital and Bob does a lovely job of celebrating it.

Please read Bob's tribute here: <https://www.utrf.org/barbara-ballinger/>

## THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL

Thank you to everyone who came out to our first Volunteer Program Enrichment Event on February 6! Due to unfortunate technical errors, I'm sad to report that whatever recording was made has been lost. For those of you who couldn't attend in person, worry not: we do intend to host a repeat of the event in the future. Hopefully we'll record that one without a hitch. For now, enjoy these lovely photos from the event (Thanks, JoEllen!)

