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MARCH 2013

## E-NEWSLETTER

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### 50th Anniversary Celebration



Midway in a Century of Care

## ICA GreenRise is now a Chicago Landmark!

**ICA GreenRise** formerly known as the *Kemper Insurance and Mutual Insurance Building* has signed its name into history after receiving **landmark status** on March 13, 2013 by the City Council.



Archival Picture of ICA GreenRise

The historic building has served as the center for the ICA throughout the years, and has been used in a multitude of ways - one of the most significant being its time as ICA's International Training Headquarters and residential facility. The building has been a pivotal feature of ICA's success and offered a space for ICA to expand its community development efforts world wide. Currently, the building tenants include over 15 different non profit organizations, a intentional community, and a two floors used for ICA programming.

Along with historical landmark status, this year, ICA GreenRise has been invited to join **Retrofit Chicago**. The kickoff event took place on March 19, 2013 at the Shedd Aquarium. At the event, Mayor Rahm Emanuel remarked that, "Retrofit Chicago Commercial Buildings Initiative is about combining economic strength and environmental excellence", a motto that ICA GreenRise is working towards embodying. ICA GreenRise is the first non-profit and one of 18 prominent building that will cut their energy use at least 20% over the next five years. The ICA Greenrise, in Uptown, is well on its way to achieving this goal with major energy saving projects under way. In addition to tangible energy reduction goals ICA staff is working on using previous ICA methodology in promoting a green culture throughout the building.

## Remote Archivers Make a Strong Impact

An amazing amount of new non-paper Archives have been created by seven individuals working far away from our Chicago location. One focus has

been in audio-visual compilations, digitization and evaluation.

Michael May in Indiana made eighteen DVD's focusing on J. W. Mathews speeches. In addition, Don Cramer in Washington is listening to one DVD each week, identifying the speaker, evaluating for quality and significance of content.



Frank Knutson working on the archives

Frank Knutson in California and Jim Baumbach in Wisconsin have identified and improved major photo groupings from Global Archives and personal files. They are all scanned and are available by subject (i.e. Town Meeting, Fifth City, etc) in the Archive Office. Walt Epley in Denver has made a complete directory of Paul Evans' audio tapes which include 105 cassettes from four Summer Research Assemblies.

The second focus is testing two data systems to determine what will be included in the on-line introduction to a major Archives Collection. Team leaders Tim Wegner in Houston and Steve Harrington in Costa Rica are determining the best options, creating working models, and organizing working teams. The prototypes will be presented in the April Archive Spring Sojourn to on-site participants and interested evaluators. It's great to know that colleagues that cannot make the trip to Chicago are still interested in helping preserve our history. If you are interested in helping out and cannot make one of the sojourns this year please contact [mphilbrook@ica-usa.org](mailto:mphilbrook@ica-usa.org), and see what other options might be available.

## Learning Basket

It has been an exciting start to the year for the Learning Basket program in Chicago. The program received funding for three new initiatives beginning this spring. The first is a grant from the Thorek foundation in support of the "Learning Basket for Healthy Families" program. The ICA has partnered with Heartland Health Association in Uptown to bring the curriculum to 20 families in the area, most of whom are recent immigrants. The program discusses healthy development in young children and healthy habits for families.



Parents and Children at a Learning Basket Training

The second new initiative this spring is around the program expansion work. While the Learning Basket program has historically served 0-3 year old children, their families, and caregivers, stakeholders have long been interested in expanding the curriculum to serve children ages 3 - 5 as well. The ICA has devoted significant time and energy over the past two years to developing a new curriculum to serve that age range, and is now in the pilot phases of

implementing the new curriculum. The two pilot partners are RefugeeOne, (a parent group will begin in April 2013) and DayStar Elementary School in the south loop. We look forward to reviewing the results of these pilot programs and moving forward with program expansion.

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