



Park/Facility Spotlight: Cheney Mansion



Welcome to Cheney Mansion

Cheney Mansion was built by architect Charles E. White, Jr. who was strongly influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright's credo that a building should express the spirit of its natural surroundings. Beauty abounds throughout the interior of Cheney Mansion which boasts a spacious living room, library, sitting room, catering kitchen, dining room and solarium on the first floor with a winding stair well leading to six bedrooms, servant's quarters and the third floor ballroom. The grounds of Cheney Mansion compliment its' interior with award winning gardens and two acres of beautifully landscaped grounds.

Cheney Mansion has been owned and operated by the Park District of Oak Park since 1985. It was originally built for the C. E. Sharpe Family in 1913 who lived there until 1921. The home was purchased by Andrew and Mary Dole in 1922 and inherited by their niece, Elizabeth Cheney, in the late 1940s. In 1975 Elizabeth deeded the home to the Park District although she lived in the Mansion until her death in 1985. No funding was designated by Elizabeth for the Mansion's support.

In 2007, the Park District completed renovation of the fencing around the Mansion which included lead abatement and painting. The roof was replaced and other exterior improvements were completed. Also in

2007, Cheney Mansion was transformed into the Infant Welfare Society's Designer Showcase House featuring the talents of some of the Chicago area's finest professional interior designers.

Currently the Mansion is a distinctive locale for corporate meetings and an extraordinary host to wedding celebrations and other private events. This popular venue is accepting bookings through the end of 2010. Cheney Mansion also provides a unique venue for recreation programs, special activities and community events for the enjoyment of Oak Park residents. Kids Cook!, Breakfast Lunch and Tea with Santa, and the Annual Amaryllis Show are just a few of the activities held at Cheney Mansion. Just recently Cheney Mansion hosted a Green Sunday Open House event featuring eco-friendly information and activities.

You are invited to stroll the beautiful grounds, open to the public whenever a private event is not taking place. Every Wednesday the Mansion offers Walk-in Wednesdays, with self-guided tours, and Garden Days where you can get your gardening questions answered. For more information on visiting or renting Cheney Mansion, please see page 68 or visit the Cheney Mansion website at www.cheneymansion.com.

Sponsorship Opportunities

From big to small, there's a sponsorship that will fit you!

For generations, the Park District of Oak Park has provided quality parks and recreation experiences for residents and visitors of all ages. The Park District offers a variety of opportunities to sponsor popular programs and special events, including our Annual Frank Lloyd Wright Races!

Opportunities include:

- **Day in our Village Rehm Park Carnival** (June 2009) - Entertainment and Activity Sponsors
- **Scoville Park Summer Concert Series** (Summer 2009)
- **Banner Placement** at the Paul Hurby Ice Arena at Ridgeland Common (Year Round)
- **Advertising within the Park District Program Guide** (Year Round)
- **33rd Annual Frank Lloyd Wright Races** (October 2009) - Gold, Silver, Goody Bag Sponsors and in-kind donations

When you partner with the Park District of Oak Park, you are associating your brand or product with healthy, fun and engaging activities for the entire community. Sponsorships are a great way to give back to the community while receiving promotional recognition. You can choose different levels of sponsorship to meet your promotional goals and financial needs - we will work with you to develop a mutually beneficial sponsorship package.

For general sponsorship information, please contact Joanna Skubish, Sponsorship Coordinator, at (708) 725-2039 or joannas@oakparkparks.com.