

CCNA History Snapshot

By Julie Enersen

27th & HWY 2 Improvement

President's Message

By Bob Ripley



With the South Street Improvement Project including a new water main, moving toward completion the end of August, things should get back to normal at the north end of our neighborhood, just in time for another to

start at the south end of our area...the 27th & Highway 2 Intersection Improvement.

To be constructed from August through November of this year, plans call for the 27th & Highway 2 intersection to see the following changes. Double left turn lanes will be provided for both northbound and southbound 27th Street traffic to turn onto Highway 2. As a result the west curb line of 27th Street south of the Highway will be moved one lane west toward the Southwood Village Apartments at which time left turns will be eliminated into the apartments by northbound traffic on 27th Street. In similar fashion north of the highway, southbound left turns onto 27th Street from the Bishop Heights Shopping Center near Arby's will be eliminated. However, northbound 27th Street traffic will still be able to make right turns into the shopping center at this location.

This project will also replace the traffic signal system at this intersection which will be built to accommodate widening of Highway 2 to three lanes in each direction at some point in the future.

(Continued on page 4)

THE LEGACY OF THE ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD



Northbound train as seen from the 33rd and Sheridan Overpass, December 1967. Courtesy Richard L. Schmeling

The Rock Island bike path, which runs along the eastern edge of our neighborhood, was constructed in the early 1980s. However, its genesis actually occurred a hundred years earlier.

In 1898, the Rock Island railroad company constructed a length of track to connect corridors, which ran north and south of Lincoln. For decades, this corridor was an active part of the Rock Island transportation system. But when increased use of the automobile and the interstate system caused a national downsizing in railroad miles, this corridor was discontinued. In 1980, the track was used for the last time by a Rock Island train.

However, another national trend known as "Rails to Trails" was also taking place at this time. Through this program, abandoned railroad beds were transformed to hiking and biking trails.

Such conversions made great sense. As noted at bicyclinginfo.com, "Rail corridors are straight, have gentle grades, and connect communities and the countryside. They provide a traffic-free environment where users can enjoy scenic views and get close to nature. Most importantly for transportation planners, the corridor is already in place and does not have to be pieced together as it would if the path were created from scratch."

According to the Rails to Trails Conservancy, approximately 12,500 miles of rail-trails exist today with 100 million users per year. Our Rock Island trail is part of that number. The accompanying photographs, taken by Lincolnite Richard L. Schmeling, remind us of the legacy of the railroad, which gave our particular trail its existence and its name.

More photos on page 3

End

Upcoming CCNA Meetings:

Mark your calendars to come join your Country Club Neighborhood Association at one of our meetings:

**We meet at 7 PM
the 3rd Tuesday
of every month
except December**

**Next Annual Meeting
March 16th, 2004**

St Matthew's Church,
2325 South 24th Street
(24th and Sewell)

Advertise in your Neighborhood newsletter, *The CCNA CHRONICLE* and reach over 2,400 households.

Business card ad.

CCNA members	\$30.00
CCNA non-members	\$40.00
non-resident, non-members	\$50.00

Half page ad.

CCNA members	\$150.00
CCNA non-members	\$175.00
non-resident, non-members	\$225.00

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CCNA members	\$300.00
CCNA non-members	\$325.00
non-resident, non-members	\$375.00

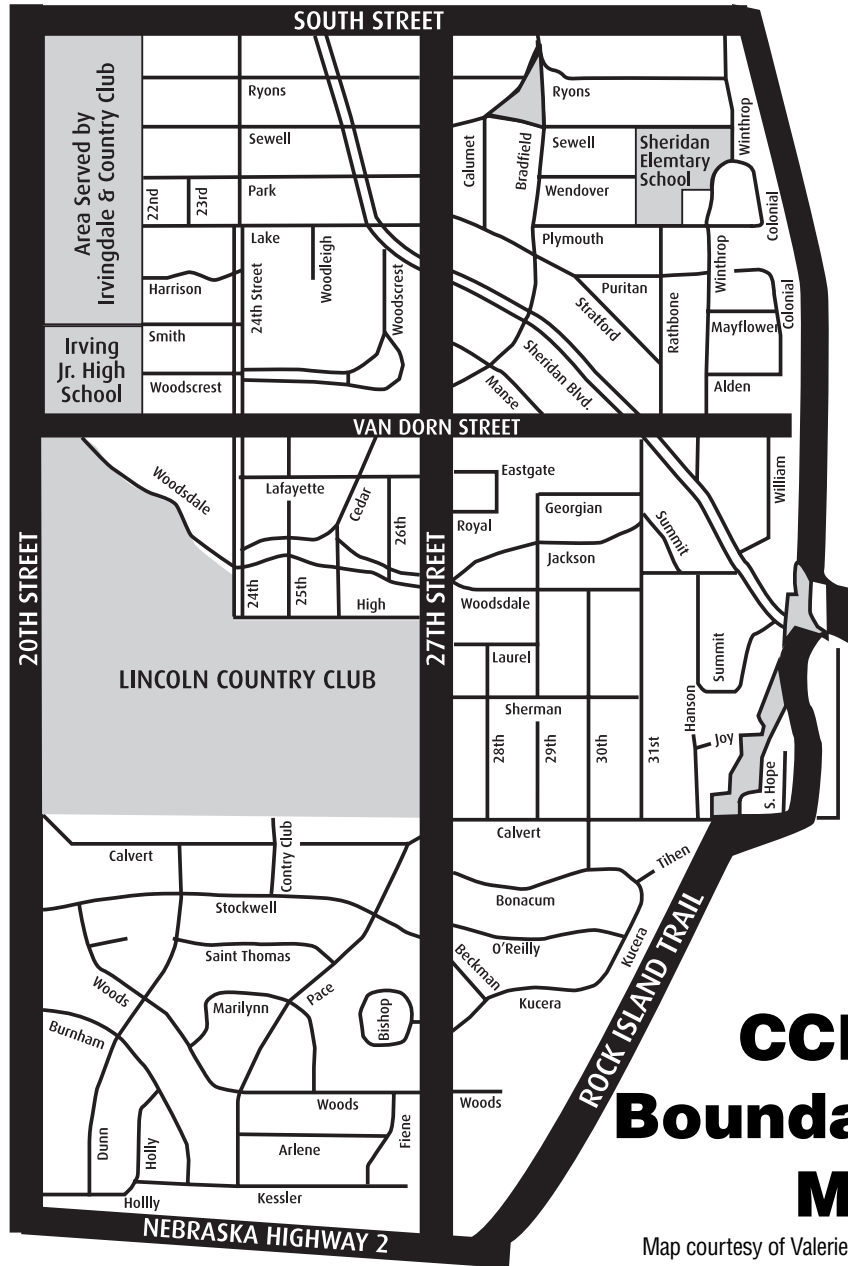
Contact Kay Hesse 489-6346

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Members and readers who have questions, comments or suggestions may call the individual(s) responsible for the area(s) of concern.

The CCNA CHRONICLE is the official publication of the Country Club Neighborhood Association (CCNA). The CCNA CHRONICLE is published quarterly by the CCNA and every address in the CCNA boundaries is mailed a copy. Statements of fact and opinion made are the responsibility of the authors alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the officers or members of CCNA. While this publication makes a reasonable effort to establish the integrity of its advertisers, it does not endorse advertised products or services unless specifically stated as such. All correspondence regarding this publication should be directed to: Country Club Neighborhood Association, Attn: CHRONICLE Editor, PO Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542.



CCNA Boundary Map

Map courtesy of Valerie J. Dayton

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Animal Complaints.....441-7900
 Buried Lines.....477-0547
 City Council Representatives..441-7515
 Crime Stoppers.....475-3600
 Household Hazardous Waste...441-8022
 Housing Codes.....441-7785
 Mayors Office.....441-7511
 Neighborhood Hotline.....441-6300
 Neighborhood Watch.....441-7204
 Parks and Recreation.....441-7847
 Quality of Life (24 hour anonymous complaints, suggestions).....441-6300
 Sidewalks (repair, shovel, etc.)441-7541
 Weed Problems.....441-7817
 Zoning Violations.....441-7521



“The rock Island line is a mighty fine line”

By Huddie Ledbetter “Lead Belly”

Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
Oh the Rock Island Line is the road to ride
Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
If you want to ride, you gotta ride it like you're flyin'
Get your ticket at the station on the Rock Island Line

Cat's in the cupboard and she cain't find me

Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
Oh the Rock Island Line is the road to ride
Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
If you want to ride, you gotta ride it like you're flyin'
Get your ticket at the station on the Rock Island Line

Maybe I'm right, maybe I'm wrong
Lawd you gonna miss me when I'm gone

Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
Oh the Rock Island Line is the road to ride
Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
If you want to ride, you gotta ride it like you're flyin'
Get your ticket at the station on the Rock Island Line



Rock Island 231, northbound train at Calvert Street. May 1969. (The area at the left is the future site of Rousseau Elementary School.) Courtesy Richard L. Schmeling



Rock Island 204, northbound behind Leon's grocery store, March 1970. Courtesy Richard L. Schmeling

- in, Buy your tic- ket at the sta- tion

Jesus died to save our sins
Glory to God I'm gonna see Him again

Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
Oh the Rock Island Line is the road to ride
Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
If you want to ride, you gotta ride it like you're flyin'
Get your ticket at the station on the Rock Island Line

Moses stood on the Red Sea shore
Smotin' the water with a two-by-four

Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
Oh the Rock Island Line is the road to ride
Oh the Rock Island Line is a mighty fine line
If you want to ride, you gotta ride it like you're flyin'
Get your ticket at the station on the Rock Island Line

For more information on the Rock Island Line, go to www.qconline.com/progress99/1rilines.shtml.

For more information on the Rails to Trails program, go to www.railstrails.org

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End

CCNA Welcomes 42 New Members to the Neighborhood!

In the past six years, almost 500 new members have moved into the neighborhood. They have added grace and beauty to the neighborhood. They have state-ly names such as the Emperor's Red Oak, the Queen's Lilac. They add color - Autumn Purple Ash, Red Sunset Maple and the Honey Locust. You can smell their sweet perfume on a summer stroll - the Japanese Lilac.

These new members our trees - 42 added to the almost 400+ that we have planted in the last 6 years.

CCNA has been very successful in writing matching grants through the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District. Along with private donations from neighbors, CCNA funds and other grants from the Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department, we have been able to keep our neighborhood looking beautiful. Our beautiful trees are part of which makes our area so special.

End

(Presidents message continued from page 1)

Construction will be phased to allow continued traffic flow in all directions at all times during the project and will not require acquisition of additional right-of-way property to complete.

This intersection improvement is driven by several factors. The immediate need is a temporary, one-year alternate route for northbound 14th Street traffic to Highway 2 which will be diverted next spring by construction to widen South 14th to five lanes. This 14th Street Widening Project will provide two driving lanes each way plus center left turn lane, from Old Cheney Road south a mile to Pine Lake Road at the new Southwest High School. Secondly, our neighborhood association has long supported adding the second left turn lane for northbound 27th Street traffic onto Highway 2 to help relieve traffic on 27th Street through our neighborhood.

It should be noted that this 27th & Highway 2 Project is being made possible by the City Public Works Department's success, specifically that of engineer Virendra Singh, in securing yet another Federal Highway Commission Safety Grant which will pay for 80% of the estimated \$350,000 construction cost for this 27th & Highway 2 improvement. Additional federal grant funds really help stretch our local road improvement budget.

Should anyone have further questions about this coming work contact project coordinator Brian Kramer at the Public Works Department.

End

Note from the Editor

By Ian Doremus

August 2003, it seems to me like the past three months just flew by. I always double-check what time of year it is by going down the "seasonal aisles" of my favorite mega store. All the gas grills are put up and replaced by school supplies, the blow-up pools are put away, replaced by the new fashions in book bags. My dad was right; time does seem to go by faster and faster.



I would like to pass along an invitation I received from the Irvingdale Neighborhood Association. They are holding a celebration of Stransky Park on October 5th. The park is located just east of 17th street and South of Harrison Street. Stransky Park was donated to the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department by Leonard "Trix" and Angeleen Stransky. The Stransky owned Trix's IGA, 13th and K Streets, from 1940 to 1974. This summer the park has gone through a major renovation to look like a Victorian style park, complete with iron fence and gazebo. The renovation was paid in part by a \$450,000 donation from the Stransky family. Their reasons were simple; they just wanted to give something back to their customers who were so good to them for so many years. Mark October 5th down on your calendars, maybe I will see you there.

End

I can also be reached through email: idoremus@neb.rr.com

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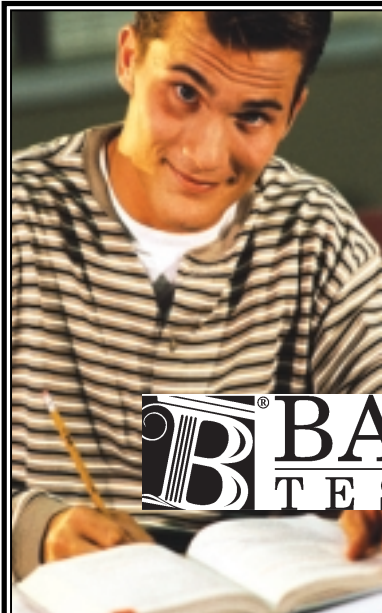
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Jeff Smith
Lincoln High School, 2003



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From the Membership Committee

Thank you to the over **680 households** who have already returned their 2003 dues cards. CCNA protects our quality of life, keeps up property values and acts as an advocate for the neighborhood interests. Your support of the organization is what keeps it thriving. If you have not yet joined CCNA for 2003, simply return the dues card that was mailed out to you or send in the form below to CCNA Dues, P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542. Your small dues payment helps CCNA do enormous good.

CCNA 2003 DUES STATEMENT

You are invited to join the Country Club Neighborhood Association. Voting memberships are open to any person, family or organization owning real estate, renting, residing or operating a business within the neighborhood area. Annual household or business membership dues are just \$15. Additional contributions are also welcome and can simply be included on your dues check. If you contribute \$25 or more, the entire amount is tax-deductible. Dues paid now are good until January 2004. If the information we have for you on the back of this card is correct, you need only fill in your areas of interest.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____


Amount Enclosed: _____

Please make check payable to Country Club Neighborhood Association and return with this card to:
CCNA Dues, P.O. Box 21953, Lincoln, NE 68542

Please update your areas of interest:

- _____ CCNA Board of Directors
- _____ Telephone/Calling Tree
- _____ Newsletter Contributor
- _____ Parks and Beautification
- _____ History/Historic Preservation
- _____ Hiking and Biking Trails
- _____ Fund Raising/CCNA Foundation
- _____ Gov't Lobbying/Monitoring
- _____ Tour of Homes
- _____ Neighborhood Party
- _____ Garden Tour
- _____ Membership/Welcoming
- _____ Garage Sale
- _____ Other Interests/Talents _____


valerie j. dayton
president/designer



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