

Learning 26 - Exploring the Ecology of Neighborhoods

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A common definition of ecology is that it is the relationships of groups of living things and their environment. While the word was first used in the science of biology, it has more recently come to be used for the interrelatedness of almost everything, including communities.

Applied to local human communities, we hear of the “ecology” of a family and its network. We also recognize the ecology of the three basic institutions – the relationships of government, not for profit corporations and business organizations. However, there is a local ecological domain manifested in the relationships of local associations – the groups, clubs, and organizations that are usually small face-to-face groups of citizens who do their work without pay. We call them “voluntary associations” because their work is outside the marketplace.

To understand the ecology of associations, consider the human structures of locality. At the primary level is the individual, their family kinship network and allied friends. At the secondary level are the voluntary associations, formal and informal. These groups are collective expressions of the interests, identities, causes and affinities of local residents. They are the primary sites where the work of citizenship occurs. The tertiary level of locality is the neighborhood institutions. These organizations of paid people have their own distinctive interests and functions. The institutional networks and relationships are intensively studied by graduate schools of management. The collective efficacy of the associational domain is much less studied and often not even recognized as the secondary social structure in society.

To understand the associational domain and its relationships, a few basic features of the associational terrain helps us find our way in understanding associational ecology.

The Prevalence of Associations

Thought of as the secondary social structure in a neighborhood, neither neighbors nor social scientists usually see the collective space occupied by associations. This is usually because they are thought of as informal, impermanent, unstructured and consequently unimportant. This combination of factors commonly leads to associational “invisibility.” Therefore, their interrelationships are not a serious question to be examined.¹

¹ Several guides to identifying local associations are included in the list of publications of the Asset-Based Community Development Institute (abcdinstitute.org). They include: Voluntary Associations in Low Income Neighborhoods; New Community Tools for Improving Child Health; Getting Connected.

One exploratory study² of associations in a town of 5,600 people found at least 81 associations with names. This indicated at least one association for every 70 people. Other studies of associational prevalence in varied localities are appended as Exhibit 1.

While these “associational maps” are preliminary probes, they suggest that in local communities, making visible the associational domain can provide the elements of an eco-map and an opening to understanding the primary work of citizens.

The Web of Associational Relationships

Once the associational prevalence becomes visible the nature of their interrelationships can be identified. At least five primary relationships emerge. First, each association creates a context for relationships that empower each member. Second, the associations have relationships with each other when they engage in collective initiatives. Third, some associations have relationships with regional, statewide or national organizations. Fourth, many associations have relationships with local non---governmental institutions including businesses and not-for-profit groups. Finally, the associations have relationships with governments, primarily at the local level.

The Civic Benefits of the Associational Web

The dense, vertical and horizontal associational web is in itself a structure that provides several community benefits. These include:

1. The structure is a network that communicates information among the community actors.
2. The information creates the basis for partnerships, coalitions and joint activities.
3. The network enhances the effectiveness of both the institutions and associations.
4. The connections between associations and institutions facilitate bridging as well as bonding.
5. The entire structure is the community generator of social capital.

The infrastructure of Communal Well-being

As the intricate ecology of associational relationships is manifested it produces the social capital that is the primary necessity for well-being. These include:

- The vehicle for problem solving and community invention.
- The primary connections that create the power to decide and act as advocates.

² See ABCD Institute website (abcdinstitute.org), Publications, A Study of the Community Benefits Provided by Local Associations.

- A safety net of services and funds
- The continuity of care for the vulnerable
- The individual knowledge that, when shared, enables mutual education among adults as well as local children.
- The support of a community culture that identifies “our way” reflected in stories, ceremonies, rituals and celebrations.

Finally, the key to this ecosystem is human relationships with each other and a place. The activating force within the associational domain is connectiveness. It’s manifestation in practice is the person, group or institution that precipitates connections non-hierarchically. This “connector” is often the spark that energizes the community’s capacity to create a culture for the common good. And another name for the associational ecosystem is the common good. We are common people living in an inescapable ecos where each of us knows and celebrates our interconnected commonality.

Examples of Local Associations from Varied Local Communities

John McKnight

Dayton Days
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A Categorization of Various Types of Local Associations

1. **Addiction Prevention and Recovery Groups**

- Drug Ministry/Testimonial Group for Addicts
- Campaign for a Drug Free Neighborhood
- High School Substance Abuse Committee

2. **Advisory Community Support Groups (friends of...)**

- Friends of the Library
- Neighborhood Park Advisory Council
- Hospital Advisory Group

3. **Animal Care Groups**

- Cat Owners' Association
- Humane Society

4. **Anti Crime Groups**

- Children's Safe Haven Neighborhood Group
- Police Neighborhood Watch
- Senior Safety Groups

5. **Block Clubs**

- Condominium Owners' Association
- Building Council
- Tenant Club

6. **Business Organizations/Support Groups**

- Jaycees
- Local Chamber of Commerce
- Economic Development Council
- Local Restaurant Association

7. **Charitable Groups and Drives**

- Local Hospital Auxiliary
- Local United Way
- United Negro College Fund Drive

8. **Civic Events Groups**

- Local Parade Planning Committee
- Arts and Crafts Fair
- July 4th Carnival Committee
- Health Fair Committee

9. **Cultural Groups**

- Community Choir
- Drama Club
- Dance Organization
- High School Band

10. **Disability/Special Needs Groups**

- Special Olympics Planning Committee
- Local American Lung Association
- Local Americans with Disabilities Association
- Local Muscular Dystrophy Association

11. **Education Groups**

- Local School Council
- Local Book Clubs
- Parent Teacher Association
- Literacy Council
- Tutoring Groups

12. **Elderly Groups**

- Hospital Seniors Club
- Westside Seniors Club
- Church Seniors Club
- Senior Craft Club

13. **Environmental Groups**

- Neighborhood Recycling Club
- Sierra Club
- Adopt-a-Stream
- Bike Path Committee
- Clean Air Committee
- Pollution Council
- Save the Park Committee

14. **Family Support Groups**

- Teen Parent Organization
- Foster Parents' Support Group
- Parent Alliance Group

15. **Health Advocacy & Fitness Groups**

- Weight Watchers
- TOPS
- Neighborhood Health Council
- Traffic Safety Organization
- Child Injury Prevention Group
- Yoga Club
- YMCA/YWCA Fitness Groups
- Anti-violence Group
- Senior Fitness Club

16. **Heritage Groups**

- Black Empowerment Group
- Norwegian Society
- Neighborhood Historical Society
- African American Heritage Association

17. **Hobby and Collectors Groups**

- Coin Collector Association
- Stamp Collector Association
- Arts & Crafts Club
- Garden Club of Neighbors
- Sewing Club
- Antique Collectors

18. Men's Groups

- Fraternal Orders
- Church Men's Organizations
- Men's Sports Organizations
- Fraternities

19. Mentoring Groups

- After School Mentors
- Peer Mentoring Groups
- Church Mentoring Groups
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- Rights of Passage Organizations

20. Mutual Support Groups

- La Leche League
- Disease Support Groups (cancer, etc)
- Parent-to-Parent Groups
- Family-to-Family Groups

21. Neighborhood Improvement Groups

- The Neighborhood Garden Club
- Council of Block Clubs
- Neighborhood Anti-Crime Council
- Neighborhood Clean-up Campaign

22. Political Organizations

- Democratic Club
- Republican Club

23. Recreation Groups

- Kite-flying Club
- Bowling Leagues
- Basketball Leagues
- BodyBuilders Club
- Little League
- Motorcycle Clubs

24. Religious Groups

- Churches
- Mosques
- Synagogues
- Men's Religious Groups
- Women's Religious Groups
- Youth Religious Groups

25. Service Clubs

- Zonta
- Optimist
- Rotary Clubs
- Lions Clubs
- Kiwanis Clubs

26. Social Groups

- Bingo Club
- Card Playing Club
- Social Activity Club
- Dance Clubs

27. Social Cause/Advocacy Issue Groups

- Get Out the Vote Council
- Peace Club
- Hunger Organizations
- Vigil Against Violence
- Community Action Council
- Social Outreach Ministry
- Soup Kitchen Group

28. Union Groups

- Industrial (UAW)
- Craft Unions (Plumbing Council)

29. Veteran's Groups

- Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
- Women's Veterans Organizations

30. Women's Groups

- Sororal Organizations
- Women's Sports Groups
- Women's Auxiliary
- Mothers Board
- Eastern Star

31. Youth Groups

- After School Group
- 4-H
- Girl and Boy Scouts
- Junior Achievement
- Campfire Girls
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- Explorers Club
- Teen Leadership Club

Associations Identified in an Urban Neighborhood

Population: 48,000, 86% African American

Total Number of Groups: 319

Anti-Crime (7)

- Community/Police Relations Subcommittee
- Court Advocacy Subcommittee
- Economic Development Subcommittee
- Housing & Development Subcommittee
- Neighborhood Watch
- Pastors of the 2nd District Subcommittee
- Youth and Family Subcommittee

Athletic (9)

- Adult Basketball League (Robert Taylor Boys and Girls Club A)
- Adult Basketball League (Robert Taylor Boys & Girls Club B)
- Liberty Baptist Cheerleading Team
- Youth Basketball League (Robert Taylor Boys and Girls Club A)
- Youth Basketball League (Robert Taylor Boys and Girls Club B)
- Youth Basketball League (Liberty Baptist Church)
- Youth Basketball League (Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church)
- Youth Basketball League (South Park Baptist Church)
- Senior Croquette Team

Business (6)

- 35th Street Merchants Association
- 47th Street Merchants Association
- 47th Street Lounge Owners Association
- Chicago Black Artisans
- Ida B. Wells Entrepreneurs
- Liberty Baptist Business and Professional Club

Churches (70)

- 44th Street Church of God
- Apostolic Faith Church
- Beersmeba M.B. Church
- Bethel A.M.E.
- Bible Way Evangelical
- Centennial Missionary Baptist Church
- Christ Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
- Christ The King Lutheran Church
- Christian Tabernacle Church
- Church of Christian Scientist

Community of Islam
Corpus Christi Church
Crusaders Church of God in Christ
Ebenezer Baptist Church
First Baptist Church of Chicago
First Church of Deliverance
First Steadfast Baptist Church
Fountain of Life Baptist Church
Gentle Savior Missionary Baptist Church
Gospel Outreach, Inc.
Greater Joy Missionary Church
Greater King Drive Methodist Church
Greater Moriah Baptist Church
Greater Mount Olivet Church
Greater Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
Harris Temple
Hartzell Methodist Church
Hyde Park Bible Church
Indiana Avenue Pentecostal
Israelite Baptist Church
Kingdom Hall of the Jehovah's Witnesses
Liberty Baptist Church
Louis Rawls Tabernacle Baptist Church
Metropolitan Community Church
Monumental Baptist Church
Moorish Divine Temple
Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church
Mount Pisgah Baptist Church
Mount Zion A.M.E.
New Bethel Church
New Covenant Gospel Tabernacle
New Haven
New True Vine Missionary Baptist Church
Olivet Baptist Church
Omega Baptist Church
Paradise Missionary Baptist Church
Pilgrim II Baptist Church
Prayer Band Church
Prince of Peace Church of God
Progressive Community Church
Range Memorial Temple
Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church
South Park Baptist Church
St. Ambrose Catholic Church

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church
St. James UMC
St. John Baptist Church
St. Joseph Baptist
St. Martha Baptist
St. Paul Church of God in Christ
St. Paul Church of God in Christ (national headquarters)
St. Paul Episcopal Church
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Tabernacle M.B. Church
Travelers Rest M.B. Church
Tremont Baptist
Turner Memorial A.M.E.
West Point Baptist Church
Ward Memorial Church
Wilborn Chapel
Zion Grove Baptist Church

Cultural (6)

201 Choral Ensemble
Dramatist Guild
Drama Group
Organization of Black American Culture (OBAC)
Roberta Martin Club (in honor of a deceased South Park Baptist Church
Musician)
An artist who teaches adults and youth to draw

Employment (1)

Job Source Advisory Group

Health & Disability (6)

Apostolic Faith Church Congregation Care (sponsors health forums)
First Aid Board (Mt. Pisgah)
Health Alliance (Liberty Baptist)
Health Guild (Apostolic Faith)
Hearing Impaired Group (Apostolic Faith Church)
Junior First Aid Board (Liberty Baptist)

Local Advisory Councils (LACs) (10)

Cottage Grove LAC
Ida B. Wells LAC
Madden Homes LAC
Prairie Avenue LAC
Robert Taylor Homes South LAC

Robert Taylor Homes North LAC
Stateway Gardens LAC
Washington Park Scattered Site LAC
Wells-Darrow LAC
Wentworth Gardens LAC

Local School Councils (LSCs) (15)

Beasley Elementary School
Crispus Attucks Elementary School
Beethoven Elementary School
Coleman Elementary School
DuSable High School
Dyett Middle School
Farren Elementary School
Fuller Elementary School
Mayo Elementary School
McCorkie Elementary School
Mollison Elementary School
Overton Elementary School
Phillips High School
Woodson (North) Elementary School
Woodson (South) Elementary School

Men's Group (4)

Apostolic Faith Men's Group
Men of Action
Men of Wells
Seniors Men's Club (Paul G. Stewart Center)

Neighborhood Block Clubs (26)

3500 & 3600 Block Club on Giles
3500 & 3600 on Calumet
39/40/41 King Drive
3800 Wabash
40th & Calumet Block Club
41st Street Block Club, 427 East 41st Street
44th & Vincennes Block Club
44th & Prairie Block Club
45th & Forrestville Block Club
47-4800 Langley Avenue Block Club
47th & Champlain Block Club, 4731 S. Champlain
48th Champlain Block Club
48th and Evans Block Club
48th and Forrestville Block Club

49th & Champlain Block Club
49th & Washington Park
Bowen/Vincennes Block Club
Calumet & Prairie
Citizens in Action, 444 East 48th Street and 4826 S. Vincennes
GAP Association
Groveland Park Association
Neighbors and Friends, 49th and Michigan
Washington Park Court Block Club
Youth Vision and Integrity, 3737 South Michigan
Oakwood Boulevard Block Club
Informal group of seniors who get together to discuss neighborhood improvement (2x a month)

Neighborhood Chapters of National Organizations (4)

Delta Sigma Theta
Elks Club - IBOPW
Phi Beta Sigma
Prince Hall Grand Lodge

Neighborhood Improvement (15)

35th Street Gateway Citizens Association
An Organization for a Better Community
Community Outreach (St. Thomas Episcopal Church)
DuSable Area Community Association
GAP Community Association (GAPCO)
Grand Boulevard Association
Grand Boulevard 76 Organization
Grand Boulevard Federation
Greater Washington Park Community Coalition
Mid-South Chamber of Commerce
Mid-South Planning Council
New Structure Organization
Vincennes Improvement Organization
The Coalition for United Community Action
The Robert Taylor Homes Network

Parent (4)

Parents Against LEAD
Parent Community Council
Parent Group for Day Care (First Church of Deliverance)
Apostolic Faith Church Family Focus Group

Park Advisory Councils (8)

- Anderson Park Advisory Council
- Dyett Park Advisory Council
- Ellis Park Advisory Council
- Lake Meadows Park Advisory Council
- Madden Park Advisory Council
- Stateway Gardens Park Advisory Council
- Robert Taylor Park Advisory Council
- Washington Park Advisory Council

Political (3)

- Third Ward Poll Watch
- Third Ward Democratic Party
- Seniors of the Third Ward

Race/Ethnic (5)

- African Holocaust Society
- JUSTUS
- People of African Interest and Descent
- Task Force for Black Political Empowerment
- Universal Negro Improvement Association, Local 429

Religious — Non-Church (31)

- Adult Choir
- Benevolence Group (Liberty Baptist)
- Bible Club at a seniors facility
- Bible Study Group
- Church & Society Group
- Community of Islam
- Couples Ministry (Liberty Baptist)
- Deliverance Ministry Group
- God Squad
- God's Gang
- Handbell Choir (Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church)
- Holy Name Society
- Mid-South Covenant for Jobs and Justice (congregations and community organizations)
- Missionary Society (Tabernacle Church)
- Missionary Society (South Park Baptist)
- Monthly meeting of Ministers of the 4th Ward
- Mother's Board
- New Horizons (Widow/Widower group)
- Pastor's Aide Club (Mt. Pisgah)
- The Renaissance Group (churches in collaboration)

Seniors Choir
Singles Ministry (Liberty Baptist)
Singles Ministry (Hartzell Methodist Church)
Singles Ministry (Apostolic Faith Church)
Theology Club (Mt. Pisgah)
Turner-Brown Prayer Group (Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church)
Usher Board
Westminister Religious and Social Club (Sixth Grace Presbyterian)
Wide Awake Club (Liberty Baptist)
Willing Workers Club (South Park Baptist)
Youth Choir
Residential Management Corporations (RMCs) (4)
Dearborn Homes RMC
King Drive North RMC
King Drive South RMC
Wentworth RMC

Self-Help (3)

Alcoholics Anonymous (6 locations)
Al Anon (1 location)
Narcotics Anonymous (2 locations)

Senior Citizens (12)

Ida B. Wells Seniors
Friends of Seniors
King Seniors (King Community Center)
Nursing Home Visitation Group (Apostolic Faith)
Seniors Social Club (First Church of Deliverance)
Senior Citizens Group (Liberty Baptist)
Seniors Club of CHA
Seniors Group (at Park District)
Seniors on the Go (Hartzell Baptist Church)
Senior Saints Society (Apostolic Faith Church)
Theta Omega Seniors
United Community of Golden Agers (Corpus Christi)

Social (2)

Informal Dinner Club for seniors. Meets once a week.
Line Dancing Club

Social Advocacy (12)

21st Century Vote (Voices of Total Empowerment)
ACTS (Alliance of Congregations Transforming the South Side)
Feed the People/Clothing Group (Liberty Baptist)

Hunger Group (Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church)
Just Say Know Club
People to People Ministry & Pantry
Policy Committee (Mt. Pisgah)
Street Soldiers
United N Peace (Street Nations)
Vigil Against Violence
Vigil for the Youth (Ida B. Wells)
Willing Workers and Strangers (Metropolitan Community Church)

Special Interest (12)

Audio/Tape Club (Apostolic Faith Church)
Bridge Club
Bridge Club at seniors facility
Knitting Club (Liberty Baptist Church)
Photography Club (Mt. Pisgah)
Race to Knowledge (youth arts & crafts)
Seniors Mardi Gras Club (Paul G. Stewart Center)
Seniors Flower Fund Group (Paul G. Stewart Center)
Veterans Pocket Billiards
Walking Club (Group of five women who walk down King Drive everyday)
2 informal card playing groups in public housing (2x or 1x a week)
Youth Video Club

Tenant (8)

Apartment group that meets once a month
Building Council
Informal group of seniors who get together to discuss apartment issues.
Meets 4 to 5 times a year.
Group making homes more affordable
Lake Meadows Tenant Association
Tenant's Council (Sixth Grace Presbyterian)
Tenant Patrol
Wells Tenant Organization

Women's Groups (5)

Concerned Community Women
Mothers Against LEAD
Self-Employed Women
Subgroup of United Methodist Women
W.I.N.E.R.S. (Women In Need, Nurtured, Edified, Rewarded and Strengthened)

Youth (24)

4-H Club
After School Program (Olivet Baptist Church)
Blue Skies
Boy Scouts of First Church of Deliverance
Boy Scouts of Liberty Baptist Church
Boy Scouts of Paul G. Stewart Center Townhomes
Campfire Girls, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 42nd & Cottage Grove
Children Around the World (St. Thomas Episcopal Church)
Girls Growing Gracefully in God (Apostolic Faith Church)
Girl Scouts of Paul G. Stewart Center Townhomes
Girls Scouts of Holy Angels Church
Girl Scouts of Liberty Baptist Church
Girl Scouts of Hartzell Methodist Church
Girl Scouts of First Church of Deliverance
Lakeside Community Afterschool Group
Madden Park Youth Group
Mentoring program for community youth (Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church)
Near South Community Youth Association
Rites of Passage (Boys Group at Apostolic Faith Church)
Subgroup of South Side Youth Consortium
Valentine Chicago Girls Club
Young Adult Christian Network (Liberty Baptist)
Youth/Young Adult Ministry
Youth Committee of Darrow Home

Association Identified in an Urban Neighborhood

Population: 60,000, 47% Hispanic

Total Number of Groups: 236

32ND WARD ADVISORY COUNCIL (sulzer)
32ND WARD CRIME COMMITTEE (sulzer)
32ND WARD DEMOCRATIC PARTY (sulzer)
32ND WARD REPUBLICAN PARTY (sulzer)
33RD WARD DEMOCRATIC PARTY (sulzer)
40TH WARD REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE (sulzer)
3600 W. DICKENS BLOCK CLUB (word)
ACT NOW: neighborhood group (church)
ACTION CLUB: neighborhood food to senior citizens (church)
AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION (phone)
AL-ANON (church)
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (phone)
ALL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS (book)
ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY (church)
AMERICAN LEGION FDR POST #923 (book)
AMERICAN LEGION LAFAYETTE POST #159 (book)
AMERICAN LEGION (SKOKIE POST) (phone)
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS (phone)
AMISTAD SPANISH-SPEAKING YOUTH (church)
ANGLERS (word)
ANIN ART PUPPET THEATER (local)
ANTIOCH PROJECT: coalition to improve the neighborhood (church)
ART THERAPY GROUP (phone)
ARTISTS COALITION (phone)
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (church)
AUTOHARP LESSONS (church)
AVONDALE COMMUNITY CENTER (local)
AVONDALE COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD (word)
BASEBALL: through work (phone)
BLOCK CLUB (phone)
BOY SCOUTS (CUB SCOUTS) OF AMERICA (phone)
BOY'S CLUB (phone)
BROTHERHOOD (church)

CBS SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP (church)
CADETS (church)
CAMERA CLUB (church)
CAMPBELL BLOCK CLUB (phone)
CAMPING/FISHING CLUB (church)
CASA CENTRAL (book)
CATHOLIC CHARITIES: mother/child program (church)
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (word)
CENTRO PARA DES ARROLLO (church)
CENTRO UNIDAD LATINA (sulzer)
CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP (church)
CHICAGO COMMONS ASSOCIATION (word)
CHICAGO CULTURAL COLLABORATIVE (phone)
CHICAGO NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD ARTISTS (phone)
CHICAGO PUBLICITY GROUP (phone)
CHINA/BURMA/INDIA ORGANIZATION (phone)
CHRISTIAN THEATER COMPANY (paper)
CHRISTIANS IN ACTION: Spanish social group (church)
CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS (phone)
COCAINE ANONYMOUS (church)
COMMUNITY SERVICE THRIFT SHOP (church)
COMMUNITY IN SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLE OF EL SALVADOR (CISPES) (word)
COMPUTER CLUB: also called the MS-DOS GROUP (church)
COPERNICUS CENTER (phone)
CRETAN FRATERNITY OF CHICAGO (book)
CRIME PREVENTION (phone)
CS&A (phone)
DAISYS: kids group (church)
DAMEN AVENUE REVITALIZATION EFFORT (DARE) (word)
DANISH ROSARY GROUP (church)
DARTBALL: baseball on dartboard (church)
DAUGHTERS OF MERCY (church)
DAUGHTERS OF MARY (church)
DEMOCRAT CLUB (phone)
DISTRICT COUNCIL (phone)
DULCINEA (word)
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (church)
EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS: self-help group (church)
ENOW TUTORING (phone)
EQUAL RIGHTS CONGRESS (book)
FAMILIAS HISPANAS: family group (church)
FAMILY CAMPING GROUP (church)
FIRESIDE BOWLING (book)
FRIENDSHIP CLUB: senior citizens club (church)
FULLERTON AVENUE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION (church)
FUTURE AVIATION PILOTS OF AMERICA (phone)
GABRIEL RICHARDS: Hispanic public speaking group (church)
GIRL SCOUTS (BROWNIES) OF AMERICA (church)
GOLDEN AMERICANS (local)

GOLDEN AGERS (church)
GOLDEN DINERS CLUB (church)
GREATER NORTH PULASKI DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (book)
GUADALUPANA SOCIETY (church)
GUADALUPARES (church)
GUARDIAN ANGELS (church)
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (church)
HEAD START (church)
HEALTH AND FITNESS GROUP FOR FILIPINOS (phone)
HEALTH CLUB (phone)
HERMANAS (church)
HERMANOS (church)
HERMOSA COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION (church)
HERMOSA CRIME PREVENTION ORGANIZATION (church)
HOLY NAME SOCIETY (church)
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OF PALMER SQUARE (word)
HUMBOLDT BOULEVARD HOMEOWNERS (church)
INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ORGANIZATION (phone)
INNER CITY IMPACT (church)
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF POLICE (book)
IRISH THEATER GUILD (paper)
JEFFERSON PARK LIONESSE CLUB (word)
JEHOVAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (phone)
JUNIORS (church)
KOSCIUSZKO PARK SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB (phone)
LADIES OF FATIMA (church)
LADIES OF CHARITY (church)
LADY JOSÉ DIEGO PTA (church)
LALECHE LEAGUE (church)
LATIN DRAMA CLUB: Northwest Community Drama Club (local)
LATIN AMERICAN STUDY GROUP (church)
LEAGUE OF AMERICANS OF UKRANIAN DESCENT (book)
LEGION OF MARY (church)
LIFELINE PILOTS (phone)
LOCAL 25 SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION (phone)
LOCAL 102808 AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS (phone)
LOGAN BOULEVARD ASSOCIATION (local)
LOGAN SQUARE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB (local)
LOGAN SQUARE LIBRARY (paper)
LOGAN SQUARE LION'S CLUB (word)
LOGAN SQUARE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION (church)
LOGAN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (phone)
LOGAN SQUARE PRESERVATION SOCIETY (church)
LOGAN SQUARE SUMMER OLYMPICS (church)
LOGAN SQUARE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (church)
LOYOLA ALUMNI CLUB (phone)
LUNCH (church)
LUTHER LEAGUE: youth group (church)
M&M CLUB: for little kids (church)

MAPLE LANES BOWLING (book)
MAPLE AVENUE BLOCK CLUB (church)
MEDIEVAL PLAYERS: performing Medieval plays (church)
MEDILL AVENUE BLOCK CLUB (church)
MILWAUKEE-DIVISION MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION (word)
MISSION COUNCIL #4 OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (church)
MONIUSKO CHOIR (church)
MOODY MEMORIAL (phone)
MOTHER AND CHILD NUTRITION CLASSES (church)
MOTHERS CLUB (church)
MOTHERS JUVENILE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (church)
NEAR NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK (sulzer)
NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR (church)
NEIGHBOR INTER-CITY IMPACT (church)
NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEER GROUP "W3" (church)
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH (phone)
NETWORK FOR YOUTH SERVICES (book)
NORWEGIAN WOMEN'S GROUP (church)
NORTH PARK COLLEGE EXTENSION (church)
NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD FEDERATION (paper)
NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION (church)
NORTHWEST COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS (paper)
NORTHWEST GAY AND LESBIAN ASSOCIATION (church)
ODD FELLOWS IOOF NORTHWEST (book)
OUR LADY OF GRACE (phone)
OUR LADY OF GRACE BASKETBALL TEAMS (church)
P.R.C.O. OF S. DANCERS (church)
PAINTER'S LOCAL #147 (phone)
PALMER SQUARE ARTS FAIR (phone)
PALMER SQUARE HOMEOWNERS (church)
PARENTS AGAINST STREET VIOLENCE (church)
PARKS, ZOOS, MUSEUMS (phone)
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ORGANIZATION (phone)
PIKA WOMEN'S MISSION GUILD (church)
PIONEERS (phone)
POLICE SOCIETY #911 OF POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE (paper)
POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA LIBRARY (sulzer)
POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA (sulzer)
POLISH-AMERICAN POLICE ASSOCIATION (book)
PORTIS PARK CHURCH (phone)
PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL (church)
PSYCHIC DEVELOPMENT CLASSES (church)
PUERTO RICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY OF CHICAGO (sulzer)
PURCHASING ASSOCIATION (phone)
QUEEN/KING CLUB (church)
REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE (phone)
RETIRED CITIZENS GROUP (phone)
ROCKWELL AVENUE BLOCK CLUB (church)
RUIZ BELVIS CENTER (book)

SELSA: block club (church)
SCOUT MOTHERS' ASSOCIATION (church)
SEA SCOUTS (church)
SENIOR CITIZENS GOLDEN DINERS CLUB (local)
SENIOR CITIZENS DINERS CLUB (church)
SHAMROCK CLUB (phone)
SID SAKOWITZ FAN CLUB (phone)
SISTERHOOD (church)
SOFTBALL: through park district (phone)
SPAULDING-WRIGHTWOOD BLOCK CLUB (CLARA LYLE) (word)
ST. LOUIS BLOCK CLUB (church)
ST. LUKE'S SENIOR CITIZENS NUTRITION GROUP (phone)
ST. ANNE'S CITADEL (phone)
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (church)
ST. HYACINTH'S (phone)
ST. FRANCIS (phone)
ST. JOHN BERCHMAN'S (phone)
SUMMER TENT CAMPING GROUP (church)
TAILWAGGERS: dog training class (church)
TASK FORCE AGAINST GANGS (church)
TED KNUSSMAN VFW (phone)
THE ORGANIZATION OF PALMER SQUARE (TOPS) (word)
THE ESTONIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH (church)
THEATRICAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY (book)
TOASTMASTERS (phone)
UKRAINIAN YOUTH GROUP (church)
UNA NUEVA ESPERANZA (book)
UNION OF MACHINE OPERATORS (phone)
UNITED NEIGHBORS INVOLVED TEAM EFFORT (local)
UNITED NEIGHBORS IN ACTION (sulzer)
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S GROUP (church)
USHERS CLUB (church)
VFW CHICAGO BLACKHAWK POST #7975 (book)
VFW #300 (phone)
VIETNAM VETERAN'S MUSEUM (paper)
WEST TOWN SHELTER (church)
WEST TOWN WILDCATS: youth group (church)
WICKER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (church)
WICKER PARK ARTISTS GROUP (church)
WILSON AVENUE CIVIC ORGANIZATION (paper)
WOMEN'S MOOSE CLUB (phone)
YMCA (phone)
YMCA SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB (phone)
YOUNG/OLDTIMERS CLUB (church)
YOUNG PEOPLE'S DRAMA GROUP (church)

Association Identified in a Small Rural Community

Population: 7,600, 97% white

Total Number of Groups: 60

4PeteSake

American Legion Post 253

Badgerland Girl Scout Troop 2669

Bloomin' Buddies Garden Club

Cub Scout Pack # 38 Spring Green

Bunco Babes

Christ Lutheran Church

Community Theater Association (Gard)

Concerned Citizens of the River Valley

Cornerstone Church of Spring Green

Driftless Area Book Club

FFA Organization (at River Valley High School)

Friends of Governor Dodge State Park

Friends of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway (FLOW)

Friends of the Spring Green Community Library

Green Squared Building Association

Greenway Manor Volunteers

Habitat for Humanity, Lower Wisconsin River

Knights of Columbus

Knitters at Nina's

Kops for Kids

Mew Haven, Inc.

Miracles on Hoof

Mostly Mondays Poetry Society

Older & Wiser Land Stewards (OWLS)

Pineland Association

River Valley Area Community Choir

River Valley Boosters Association (athletics)

River Valley Mom's Group

River Valley Music Boosters

River Valley Players

River Valley Soccer Association

River Valley Stitchers

River Valley Youth Football Club

Rural Musicians Forum

River Valley High School Alumni Band

River Valley High School Madrigal Choir & Jazz Vocal Group

River Valley High School Senior Service Learning Class

Skills USA (at River Valley High School)

Solstice Jazz Band
Spring Green Area Arts Coalition
Spring Green Area Chamber of Commerce
Spring Green Area EMT District
Spring Green Area Fire Protection District
Spring Green Area Historical Society
Spring Green Arts & Crafts Fair Committee
Spring Green Cemetery Association
Spring Green Community Church
Spring Green Community Food Pantry
Spring Green Dog Park
Spring Green Dolphins
Spring Green Farmers Market
Spring Green Film Club
Spring Green Golf Club, Inc.
Spring Green Lions Club
Spring Green Literary Festival
Spring Green Senior Citizens Club
Stitch 'n Bitch
Unity Chapel, Inc.
Wyoming Valley School Cultural Arts Center