



HISTORIC CHICAGO
BUNGALOW ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE

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HCBA Announces Spring Seminar Series Schedule

*Seminars on Remodeling, Energy Efficiency, Masonry and Landscaping to
Help Bungalow Owners Retain Beauty, Value*

CHICAGO – With the new year comes new opportunities for owners of Historic Chicago Bungalows and others interested in home improvements to learn about rehab, preservation and energy efficiency. One of the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association’s most popular programs, the Seminar Series gives homeowners the resources they need to improve and preserve their homes. With an emphasis on money-saving and cost-effective improvements, topics in spring 2010 will range from remodeling and green initiatives to landscaping and masonry, and will provide a monthly guide for home projects, both indoors and out.

Seminars will take place throughout the city and will feature trusted experts on preservation, rehabilitation, energy efficiency and financing.

“The HCBA hopes to inspire homeowners to improve their homes through the resources provided at our neighborhood seminars,” said Annette Conti, Executive Director of the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association. “Knowledgeable speakers provide new ideas and advice on renovating historic homes.”

In February, homeowners can learn how to make their homes more energy efficient with advice from experts on what projects to do, how to do them and how to pay for it at the “Going Green to Save Green” seminars. Sharon Madigan from ComEd, a representative from the Chicagoland Natural Gas Savings Program, and a Harris Bank representative will discuss home equity loans, mortgage refinancing and home improvement loans. Adrian Cerda from HCBA will discuss special incentives for bungalow owners and Jay Wrobel from MEEA will discuss the very generous ARRA incentives available for the same measures to give Bungalow Association members an added financial boost. Seminars will take place on Thursday, February 11 from 7:00 to 8:15PM at the Sulzer Branch Library (4455 N. Lincoln Avenue); on Tuesday, February 16 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the Avalon Branch Library (8148 S. Stony Island Avenue); and on Thursday, February 25 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the West Belmont Branch Library (3104 N. Narragansett Avenue).

The March seminars, titled “Making the House You Have the Home You Want,” will focus on room remodeling, kitchen and bath renovations, attics, pattern drawings and more. Architect Julia Liska will answer the audience’s renovation questions. A representative from the City of Chicago’s Department of Community Development will discuss how TaxSmart Rehab loans can help make a planned project a reality. Seminars are scheduled for Wednesday, March 10 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the Sulzer Branch Library; Thursday, March 18 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the West Belmont Branch Library; and Wednesday, March 24 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the Avalon Branch Library.

As spring begins, the April seminars, “A Garden for Every Home,” will focus on gardening and planting. Attendees will learn about front and back lawn landscaping, sustainable plantings, flower boxes and more with Susan Kegan from Christy Webber Landscapes. Seminars are set for Monday, April 12 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the Avalon Branch Library; Wednesday, April 14 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the Sulzer Branch Library and Tuesday, April 20 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the West Belmont Branch Library.

May seminars will focus on exteriors. “Bungalow Masonry: Keeping up Appearances, Keeping down Energy Costs” with Mario Machnicki from Marion Restoration will focus on the importance of maintaining your Bungalow’s masonry, not just for great curb appeal, but also for ensuring your home’s energy efficiency. The seminars will take place on Monday, May 3 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the Avalon Branch Library; Thursday, May 6 from 7:00 to 8:15PM at the Sulzer Branch Library and Thursday, May 13 from 6:30 to 7:45PM at the West Belmont Branch Library.

The HCBA’s monthly series is sponsored by the HCBA, the City of Chicago, the Chicago Public Libraries, and Peoples Gas to provide Chicagoans with information on how to preserve and restore their homes to be more energy efficient. This year’s seminars have been expanded in both locations and topics. A complete listing of topics and sites can be found on the HCBA website: www.chicagobungalow.org.

The Bungalow Initiative was launched in 2000 as an effort to preserve the City’s architecturally significant bungalows, which comprise nearly one-third of the single-family housing stock in Chicago. Since then, over 10,000 bungalows have been certified and more than 4,000 families have received grants and vouchers assisting them with restoration. Built more than 75 years ago, these historic homes can be preserved and modernized for today’s lifestyles and energy needs. The Bungalow Initiative ensures that bungalow owners have the tools and resources necessary to restore their historic homes.

If you have any questions or want to reserve a space at the seminars, please call 312.822.0505 or email reservation@chicagobungalow.org.

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