

Malibu East Dialogue

February 2001

Your Communication and Information Resource

MECA Web site under construction

MECA goes digital

by Jack Winans

A volunteer effort has spearheaded an impressive start to Malibu East's temporary new Web site at MalibuEast.org. Coordinating the effort and providing technical expertise is Larry Rosen, IBM employee and MECA resident/webmaster. Also providing Web skills is Randy Gray. The Dialogue has also provided extensive content. Many back issues of the Dialogue can be downloaded in Adobe Acrobat Reader and viewed or printed. The MECA Declaration and several other documents are also available.

The site opens with a home page containing a description and picture of Malibu East and lists many of the amenities available to our residents.

The Web site currently has seven sections:

- **Home page** as described above
- **News:** empty at this time
- **Calendar:**
MECA meeting and event schedule. Currently lists all board meetings. *Contact the webmaster to have your committee or event placed in the calendar.*
- **Services:**
- Malibu East phone numbers and garage rates
- **Resources:**
Phone numbers and web links to our government officials, departments and transportation utilities.
- **Reference:**
MECA Board of Directors
MECA documents: Currently just the Declaration
ME Dialogue Archive: Current issue and several back issues
CTA Timetables: Three bus and

Home
News
Calendar
Services
Resources
Reference
Links

Malibu East
CONDOMINIUM

6033 North Sheridan Road
Chicago, Illinois 60660
Phone: (773) 271-1732

Malibu East's 45 stories and 498 residential units, 12 units per floor (1-3BR, 9-2BR and 2-1BR), stands on the corner of Sheridan Road and Glenlake Avenue on the water's edge of Lake Michigan and provides its owners with one of the most magnificent panoramic views of the lake and skyline to be found anywhere in Chicago.

Building Amenities

- Porte-cochere: elegantly landscaped, protected courtyard and driveway. Provides weatherproof access to the lobby from your car and from the bicycle room.
- 24 hour uniformed doorman and telephone security intercom
- Four passenger elevators and one service elevator
- Balcony access from the living room and each bedroom
- Two outdoor swimming pools and a wading pool
- Tennis court and jogging path on the pool deck
- Three Finnish saunas
- Billiard room

two "EI" schedules.

- **Other documents:**
Local district beat maps
Cable TV channels
Illinois Condominium Property Act. (Links to the current version with the latest revisions.)

Also available on each page is a hyperlink for email to the webmaster, Larry Rosen — MalibuEast@aol.com

The space available on this temporary site is limited. It is hoped that, in the future, a permanent site will become available with ample space for:

- The Balcony Man cartoon series
- Detailed articles on our amenities with pictures.
- Building Rules and Regulations
- Garage Rules

- Various forms and real estate packets
- Committee lists and members

As the site is in the development stage, our Webmaster is requesting content ideas and comments from residents. Please address your suggestions to Larry Rosen and leave at the lobby desk or the management office or email to Feedback@MalibuEast.org.

Our condolences to the family and friends of Blanca C. Wagner

MECA board meeting notes

by Elaine Winans



MECA board meeting Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2001

Attendance:

10 board members, 2 management representatives and 14 residents

Absent: Richard Strauss, Scott Young
OPEN FORUM 1

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) I've noticed that some of the new residents are using carts for laundry and carts are also being used for move-ins and move-outs. We need a notice in the Dialogue and a sign about cart use from the management office on the laundry door.
- 2) Was there a fire in the building? *Yes, there was a kitchen grease fire that was contained to the unit kitchen and was put out by the resident before the fire department arrived. No water was used and there were no injuries.*
- 3) Have furnishing in the hallway been selected for their fire-retardant properties? *Yes and we will continue to use this type of materials as we redecorate.*
- 4) I live on the floor that had the fire and used the stairwell instead of the elevator. I am offering my services and expertise as I am in the fire/security safety field. *The board accepted the offer and took the resident's name for future contact.*
- 5) A vendor told me that the baseboard heaters have a life expectancy of 25 years. We need the names of more vendors of this item. *Management and Sudler will compile a list of vendors.*
- 6) Many of the water heaters are reaching their life expectancy also. *Yes, and it is really important that when they are replaced that you use a licensed plumber and that he contacts the management office for up-to-date regulations and MECA requirements concerning the installation of water heaters, drip pans, overflow valves, etc. Also, keep in mind that MECA is*

NOT responsible for damage due to leakage from water heaters.

This is the responsibility of unit owners and for this reason it is important that unit owners carry home insurance.

TREASURER'S REPORT

1) Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves — \$2,636,278.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Rules and Regulations

... there was a kitchen grease fire that was contained to the unit kitchen and was put out by the resident before the fire department arrived. No water was used and there were no injuries.

Nothing new, still working on garage rules revisions.

2) Floor Representatives

Ten residents at last week's meeting. We discussed the issues mentioned in last month's Dialogue. We are still pushing for new members. We will also participate in the gathering of resident emergency information. The committee recommends the installation of railing in the ramp outside of the management office. We also are requesting a power door for the freight elevator door by the mailroom.

We also collaborated with Vito to acquire bids on window repairs/replacement. The management office now has information on these items. If enough owners request repairs this winter while companies' business is slow, perhaps we can negotiate a special price. Contact the committee if you are interested in any of these options:

- a. Replace glass and fittings
- b. New weather stripping
- c. Total replacement of door

3) Garage

Standard Parking has notified us that a new tax on parking will af-

Please keep in mind that the meeting notes are not the official record of the MECA Board of Directors meetings. The official minutes are generally approved at the following meeting and may be viewed or copied in the management office.

fect us in the amount of \$4,300.

The new tax applies only to guest parking, not to monthly parking.

4) Social

The dance classes have been very successful. Our building's 30-year anniversary is coming this June.

We will plan something big.

5) Commercial Property

We are investigating the possibility of reconfiguring the current ramp in front of the Management Office to make it ADA compliant and also to provide access for visitors to the commercial unit.

6) Holiday fund

The board acknowledges the contributions of those owners and residents who made this holiday fund such a success. (See article, page 8.)

7) ASCO

The 147 bus will probably be back in service on Sundays this summer. Malibu will host an ASCO open meeting at 7:30 pm on Feb. 15.

8) Architecture & Aesthetics

We will meet at 7:30 pm Feb. 8 in the Community Room to discuss redecorating the residential hallways. (See article, page 3.)

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Items requiring board action

1) Commercial property issues

We may receive a tax reduction for the commercial unit.

2) Dialogue printing

A motion was passed to buy a new copier for the management office that will have the capability of printing projects that are now being outsourced to Kinkos, including the Dialogue.

- 3) **Relocation of taxi light**
The light will remain in the same location and be replaced with a stronger strobe light.
- 4) **List of unfinished projects**
 - a. Life safety program (ongoing)
 - b. Exterior/balcony project (targeted for completion spring 2002)
- 5) **Transfer of excess operation funds**
According to treasurer Tom Vaughan, subject to audit, preliminary year-end excess operating funds of \$275,000 will be transferred to our reserves in addition to the scheduled \$566,000 funding.
- 6) **Committee appointments**
The committee appointments were approved — see page 6.
- 7) **New office computer**
\$1,700 was approved for the purchase of a new office computer to replace the current computer, which is out of date and crashes frequently due to the lack of resources.

Items not requiring board action

- 1) **Exterior & balcony project**
Feb. 15 is the target startup date. We will start on south-side break-out work.
- 2) **North wall repairs**
Permanent repairs will commence this spring.
- 3) **Garage report**
 - Claims** none
 - Waiting lists**
 - Single self-park: 78
 - Tandem self-park: 2
 - Second car: 15
 - Monthly parkers**
 - Valet: 316
 - Tandem: 75
 - Single: 143
 - Preferred: 4
 - Engineer: NC
 - Motorcycle: 3
 - Total: **541**
 - New monthlies: 3
 - Cancellations: 5

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Laundry room door**
We need an automatic door for the laundry room. Perhaps we could budget a new automatic door for the building every year.

- 2) **Sign on corner**
The lighted side on the corner should be updated to use the new letterhead logo.

RATIFICATION OF ACTION DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1) **Tenant parking**
Employees of the mall tenants should be able to make parking arrangements individually through the management office.

OPEN FORUM 2

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) Larry Rosen presented the board with a new Web site for Malibu East at the recently registered domain, MalibuEast.org (see story, page 1). A committee was formed to coordinate efforts to develop this site (see page 6). The board thanked Mr. Rosen for his efforts. The meeting ended at 9:45 pm and went into closed session.

Our hallways need your help!

by Larry Creter

Join the Architecture & Aesthetics Committee in developing a plan for the refurbishing of our corridors and lobby. During this year the committee will be gathering ideas and enlisting outside help to plan for this major task.

Help us with your time and ideas by joining this committee, which will meet in the Community Room at 7:30 pm on Thursday, Feb. 8. You can also leave a note for this committee with the front desk.

Correction

The door-decorating contest article in the January issue of the Dialogue should have read:

Honorable mentions

39E for Kwaanza
We apologize for our error.

Channel 95 survey

from the Dialogue Committee

Channel 95 is maintained by our management office staff to keep you current with ongoing Malibu East affairs. Please fill out this survey and return to the front desk or the management office.

Circle the answers that apply and comment below.

- 1. I watch Channel 95
 - A-Often
 - B-Seldom
 - C-Never
- 2. The information given is
 - A- Important
 - B- Ordinary
 - C-Unimportant
- 3. I use the information
 - A-Often
 - B-Sometimes
 - C-Never
- 4. The channel design is
 - A-Pleasing
 - B-Unimportant
 - C-Distracting
- 5. The page speed flow is
 - A-Too fast
 - B-All right
 - C-Too slow

What additional information would make Channel 95 more useful to you?

How would you change the appearance of Channel 95?

Other comments

Community Calendar

by Rose Wandel



BERGER PARK CULTURAL CENTER

Steppin' Out Live at 6205 FREE

Barry White and K.C. and the Sunshine Band. Dance your way back in time when retro was in, Motown was smooth and disco was groovy. Bring your dancing feet and learn cool moves from our dance experts.

7 pm, Friday, Feb. 16
6205 N. Sheridan Rd.
312-742-7871

Computer classes

Internet Basics

5 weeks, \$65
2-4 pm Tuesdays, Feb. 13-Mar. 13

Windows Basics

5 weeks \$45
2-4pm Thursdays, Feb. 15-Mar. 15
Call 773-761-5792 for info —
limited openings.

BROADWAY ARMORY

Volunteer for after-school programs

Front desk greeters, homework tutors, sport supervisors
Mon.-Fri. 2:30-5:30 pm
5917 N. Broadway
312-742-7502

EDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Internet basics FREE

10-11:00 am first Sat. month.
Mouse skills, www search, email.
Call for info and registration.

CAPS 24th Dist. Beat #33SD
Come meet our beat police.

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7 pm
(1st Wed. of every month)
1210 W. Elmdale
312-744-0718

EDGEWATER

MEDICAL CENTER

Senior Center programs

Open to all 55 and older.

Valentine luncheon

\$6, Feb. 12, 11:30 am – 8th floor
Call for reservations

Bible study

Feb 16, 10 am – 8th floor

Potawatomi Bingo Casino

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 21
Call for details; \$44 includes lunch
5700 N. Ashland Ave.
773-797-1095

NORTHTOWN GARDEN SOCIETY

7:30 pm, first Tue. of month
Warren Park
773-465-2276 or 743-5914

WARREN PARK

Sledding, tobogganing, snowboarding

Free – open all winter, warm-up
and washroom facilities available.
6601 N. Western
743-5015

Ongoing THEATER/SHOWINGS

BLACK ENSEMBLE THEATER

"Unforgettable"

Story of the life and music of the famous jazz pianist Nat King Cole.
\$25 — Thu. 7:30 pm, Sat. 3 pm,
Sun. 7:30 pm

"The Jackie Wilson Story"

The highs and lows of his life.
\$25, Fri./Sat. 8 pm, Sun. 3 pm
4520 N. Beacon
773-769-4451

BOXER REBELLION THEATRE

"The Resurrectionists"

Historical drama of 1818 Scotland
Feb. 15 – Mar. 31
1257 W. Loyola
773-465-7325

CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY

"Vagabond"

A woman in 1912 Paris must
choose between security of

marriage and the freedom of a
dance hall.

Thru Mar. 4 — \$20

Fri. 8 pm, Sat. 3 & 8 pm, Sun. 3
pm

1020 W. Bryn Mawr
773-293-3682

INCLUSION ARTS GALLERY

The Figure Abstract

Exhibition by Mo Cahill and Berta
Marerro

Through Feb. 28

3-6 pm Wed.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm Sat.
6932 N. Glenwood
773-465-6081

LIFELINE THEATRE

"Jane Eyre"

Adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's
dark romance.

Through Apr. 1

Fri./Sat. 8 pm, Sun. 5:30 pm
\$18, \$15 students/seniors
\$10, if ½ hour before show
6912 N. Glenwood
773-761-4477

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

Senior volunteer and foster grandparent

Illinois Dept. on Aging
800-252-8966

Food banks

773-247-3663

Reading for adults and children
312-857-1582

Animals

Call the local Anti-Cruelty Society
for shelters, supplies, food.

MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

Architecture & Aesthetics Committee

Thursday, Feb. 8

7:30 pm — Community Room

Thursday afternoon

discussion group

Thursday, Feb. 15

(every 3rd Thurs. of month)

2:00 p.m. — Community Room

Dialogue Committee meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 21

7:30 p.m. — Community Room

MECA board meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 27

7:30 p.m. — Windjammer Room

Leave event and meeting notices at the
desk for the Dialogue.

Management report

by Vito Senese
MECA Association Manager



The New Year has brought several different types of challenges for the building staff, and they have worked extremely hard to meet each one. On behalf of all the residents in the building, we tip our hats to the entire staff for all their hard work and efforts during the past several weeks in dealing with the blizzard conditions and very cold temperatures. Job well done!

The exterior balcony and façade repairs have been put on hold due to the weather conditions, and the crews may start up again in mid-February, weather permitting. When the crews do start up again, they will be working on the east and south sides of the building at the same time. The plan is to have all the breakout work completed on the south side of the building by the end of the spring of 2001, weather permitting.

The association will be painting the balcony railings beginning early in the spring. The project will include the balance of the units on the north side of the building as well as beginning painting the railings on the east side of the building. Residents involved in the program will be receiving notices in late February. We need everyone's cooperation for the project to be as successful as it was last year.

Many residents have left keys with the lobby desk for various reasons and have forgotten to reclaim them. If you left keys with the front desk during the past 60 days, please pick them up on or before Jan. 31. Keys not picked up by then will be removed from the front desk and returned to the resident via the receiving room. Furthermore, effective Feb. 1, keys left at the front desk for more than two weeks will be removed from the front desk and returned to the resident. Residents cannot leave keys at the front desk indefinitely, and we thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding regarding this matter.

Recently several unit owners who

needed to obtain a certificate of insurance for their lender have contacted the management office. Most of the requests from the unit owners have been for verification of flood insurance coverage. The management office does not issue insurance certificates, but any unit owner may obtain a certificate by calling the insurance agent for the association, which is CISA, at 847-870-7000, and ask for the certificate department and request that they issue a certificate directly to your lender. The association is covered by a variety of insurance, and all unit owners are strongly encouraged to review their own unit insurance policy with their agent so it can be dovetailed with the association's policies. By reviewing your coverage, you can hopefully prevent any gaps in your coverage should an insured loss occur in your unit.

The Floor Representatives Committee has prepared a program for owners who wish to have their sliding glass doors replaced. The committee has worked with Advanced Glass to create three options for the replacement of the doors, and further information regarding the program can be obtained by contacting the management office.

Finally, on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 8:25 a.m., a cooking fire broke out in one of the units in the building. The fire was confined to the kitchen, and the resident in the unit was able to extinguish the fire before the fire department reached the unit. A lot of smoke made its way into the hallway during the fire, but that appears to be the extent of the damage to the common area. All residents are reminded to follow the recommended procedures when a fire occurs. If you are not familiar with the fire safety procedures, please contact the management office so you can obtain a fire safety brochure.

Useful phone numbers Clip & save



MALIBU EAST

Management Office	271-1732
Doorman	271-1769
Garage Manager	271-5193
Receiving Room	271-2608
Dialogue	334-7886

CAPTAIN'S WALK

Dr. Bastani	506-9600
Dr. Horbal	275-0110
Convenient store	769-5440
Dry cleaners	728-6023
Beauty shop	561-6595
Fortune Lin Sushi Corner	784-6936

GOVERNMENT

Emergency services	911
Non-emergency services	311
US Rep. Jan Schakowsky	847/328-3399
State Sen. Carol Ronen	769-1717
State Rep. Harry Osterman	784-2002
Alderman Mary Ann Smith	784-5277
48th Ward Streets & San.	312/744-2130
Edgewater Public Library	312-744-0718

ORGANIZATIONS

ASCO	465-4393
Edgewater Chamber of Com	561-6000
Edgewater Com.. Council	334-5609
Edgewater Historical Soc.	907-1872

UTILITIES

Ameritech	800/244-4444
Com Ed	800/334-7661
RTA information	312/836-7000
21st Century	888/790-2121

DIALOGUE ADVERTISERS

Chestnut Cleaning Service	312/332-5575
Dino Chihaiia, Realtor	769-2500
Dr. Betty E. Graham, D.C.	769-6666
Helen Wagner, Realtor	334-0200
Joe LeSanche, Carpet cleaning	907-9856
Mary E. Oswald, Realtor	312/640-7038
Mocky Sire, Realtor	312/867-8415
Roady Toady, Limousine	728-1902
Sandy Chaet, Realtor	847/291-6664

2001 MECA Board committee assignments

Special committees

(Membership limited to board members unless otherwise noted)

Admissions

Martina Molins (Chair)
Larry Creter (Vice Chair)
Ila Chaiken
Allan Eckardt
Stuart Meshbom
Judy Walker

Finance Insurance

Richard Strauss (Chair)
Tom Vaughan (Vice Chair)
Jared Cloud
Martina Molins
Judy Walker
Scott Young

Long-Range Planning

Scott Young (Chair)
Jared Cloud (Vice Chair)
Ila Chaiken
Larry Creter
Stuart Meshbom
Richard Strauss

Grievances and Appeals

Board Officers

Marcel Molins
Stuart Meshbom
Richard Strauss
Tom Vaughan
Alan Eckardt
Larry Creter
Judy Walker

Special Projects

Alan Eckardt (Chair)
Jared Cloud (Vice Chair)
Larry Creter
Richard Strauss
Tom Vaughan
Scott Young

Employees' Christmas Fund

Stuart Meshbom. (Chair)
Tom Vaughan (Vice Chair)
Sandy Chaet
Alan Eckardt
Richard Strauss
Judy Walker

Garage Committee

Martina Molins (Chair)
Richard Strauss (Vice Chair)
Sandy Chaet

Larry Creter
Alan Eckardt
Security Committee
Larry Creter (Chair)
Sandy Chaet (Vice Chair)
Jared Cloud
Alan Eckardt
Scott Young
Judy Walker

Standing committees

Liaison board members
(Membership open to Residents)

Architecture, Aesthetics and Physical Plant

Alan Eckardt
Larry Creter
Scott Young
Richard Strauss

Commercial Unit

Jared Cloud
Tom Vaughan
Judy Walker
Marcel Molins

Dialogue

Larry Creter
Ila Chaiken

Floor Representatives

Ila Chaiken
Marcel Molins
Scott Young

Garage

Martina Molins
Richard Strauss

Legal

Jared Cloud
Martina Molins

Public and Community Affairs

Sandy Chaet
Jared Cloud
Judy Walker

Social, Educational and Recreational

Larry Creter
Richard Strauss
Tom Vaughan

Rules and Regulations

Jared Cloud
Tom Vaughan
Scott Young

Landscaping

Larry Creter
Scott Young

Pet Committee

Larry Creter

Judy Walker
Parent Committee

Alan Eckardt
Tom Vaughan

Web Site

Larry Creter
Jared Cloud
Scott Young

Computers needed for children's programs



The Berger Park Computer Center needs computers to serve the after-school and camp programs. Please donate your "old" computer. A receipt for tax purposes will be provided. The computer must meet or exceed these criteria:

133 MHz, 8 MB RAM, CD and floppy drives, 500 MB HD, speakers. Monitors, keyboards, mice and headphones are also needed. PC and Nintendo 64 game software is welcome also.

Call 773-761-5792 for information.

Are you a budding writer?



We realize that most residents in this building have active lives and cannot dedicate their efforts full-time to a committee. We also realize that this building is full of people with many community commitments.

We are just asking for some of you to share the special knowledge that you have of a local community group, school and church with us in the form of a short one-time article for the Dialogue.

Your neighbors and friends will appreciate your interest in our community.

Resident's son made commander

Peter Toppel was made commander of the Rolling Meadow's Police Department at a city hall ceremony Jan. 9. Commander Toppel has received many commendations during his 25 years of service with the Rolling Meadows police department. Commander Toppel is the son of Elaine Winans, who lives at Malibu East in Chicago. Peter's wife, Maureen Toppel, pinned on his gold badge in the presence of their children and grandchildren. Also present were many well-wishers from the police department, including Commander Toppel's former co-workers from the Investigations Department.

Source: data from the City of Rolling Meadows.



NOTICE

Due to security concerns, the Dialogue will be removed from resident's doors and returned to the management office five days after delivery.



What changes have you made to your unit?

by Jack Winans

As all of our units are 30 years old, I'm sure that most of us have done or are contemplating at least some remodeling. We'd like to hear from you and maybe get some pictures, too, about the changes that you have made to your unit. I'm sure that some of them are really unique or outstanding. Those who are considering remodeling in the near future could certainly take advantage of your experience and your ideas.

If you are remodeling, there are many sites on the Internet that can help. One of most comprehensive is homejupiter.com. It includes showrooms, checklists, a project notebook, cost estimator and more.



St. Ita's Catholic Church

5500 N. Broadway

by Ara Mayian

St. It's parish was founded in 1900 by Father Crowe. The current church, which stands at the corner of Catalpa and Broadway, was started in 1924 and completed in 1927. That church was designed by Henry Schlacks, who also designed other churches in the area, notably St. Mary of the Lake in Chicago and St. Edmunds in Oak Park.

The exterior of the church is made of Indiana limestone in the French Gothic style. The interior is marble that was imported from Italy. There are 2800 square feet of stained glass windows (about 200,000 pieces). The rose window at the rear of the church is a copy of the one in Paris at Notre Dame Cathedral. The window above the altar is supposed to be one of the best in the New World. During the maintenance of the church, which was completed last year, the stained glass windows were cleaned. In the fifty-some years I have attended services there, I recently saw a shade of green in those windows that I had never noticed before. The pipe organ, which contains about 4500 pipes, is undergoing maintenance now and will be finished in June 2001.

I transferred to St. Ita's grammar school in the sixth grade in 1950 and graduated in 1952. I was married at the church in 1985. Other than one year spent in California, this parish has been my spiritual home since 1950 and continues throughout my adult life. I worked as the bingo caller for 17 years. For 41 years, I have been and continue to be an usher. It's my privilege to have been a part of the life of the church, and I have made many friends in the community as a result of that association. Many of my grade school friends are still around here or in nearby suburbs, and we get together often to share memories.

At the time I first arrived, the parish consisted of many nationalities, but I always say I am the way I am because I went to school with the Irish! But St. Ita is a diverse and urban parish. And the people trace their origins to many nations of the world. At the present time we have a number of people from the Philippines (speaking Tagalog as a second language). A number of Spanish-speaking nations are represented, and there is even a Spanish mass every Sunday.

For those of you who never heard of St. Ita, she was an Irish nun from County Limerick. She was a contemporary of St. Patrick, who taught her. Her feast day is Jan. 15.



Postal rate changes

Letter rate, first ounce	\$0.34
(went up 1 cent)	
Additional ounce	\$0.21
(went down 1 cent)	
Postcards	\$0.20

The management office has a complete list of the new rates.

First-class mail prices effective Jan. 7, 2001. Letters, flats and parcels weighing not over (ounces):

1	\$0.34
2	.55
3	.76
4	.97
5	1.18
6	1.39
7	1.60
8	1.81
9	2.02
10	2.23
11	2.44
12	2.65
13	2.86

CLIP AND SAVE



Swinging success

by Betty Mayian

Lawrence Bercini (1998 World Amateur Dance Champion) is a neighbor who offered to teach a Malibu East dance class. The class is free, and the dances are low impact — slow and romantic dances for all ages and all abilities. Because these are “couples” dances, Lawrence enlisted Ms. Kiki Real (*picture above right*), a friend of his, to help him demonstrate the “swing” steps. She brings a lot of enthusiasm to the Windjammer Room. So far the people who have attended the first three Monday night classes have been enthusiastic and eager to continue these lessons. The first class was to be from 7 p.m. to 8:30, with the next six classes finishing at 8 p.m. Well, each class has lasted longer than expected, and some students have met on succeeding nights to practice. Attendance the first night was 30, with a pretty solid group set at 22 by the third week.

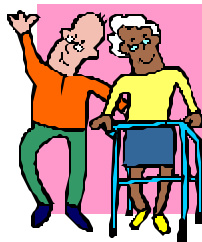
An interesting development has occurred. We now have some people who are offering to teach other types of classes for the benefit of the MECA community. This only shows that Lawrence started something good. Thanks to him and to the attendees.

Thoughts while walking

by Jack Winans

The 24th floor hallway is always the warmest.

Evidently “burning the breakfast toast” is a common experience at Malibu East.



As of Jan. 25 there were still two dozen Xmas decorations hanging on residential doors waiting to celebrate Valentine's day.

I'm noticing more people walking the halls for exercise.

I've lost 40 pounds while walking 280 miles, that's 7 miles to the pound.

Holiday fund

by Thomas Vaughan

The employees of MECA asked the Holiday Fund Committee to thank the residents for their generous contributions to the annual Employees Holiday Fund. This year we received in excess of \$19,500 from 280 individuals and families. Contributions ranged in size up to \$750 for an average just under \$70. This amount was distributed to our 40 building and garage employees based upon length of service and salary. The building can be proud that the average tenure of our staff is close to eight years.

Thank you, everybody,
and happy holidays!

Reminder

By Jan Alex

(Reprinted from the March 1985 Dialogue.)

According to the Declaration of the Condominium Association (Article VII, paragraph H), "No type of washer or dryer or other laundry equipment shall be installed in any residential unit." The reason being that the drain risers were not built to withstand the additional



'Town Crier' announcement

We welcome all new residents to our building, including:



If you have information concerning talented or famous MECA residents, please contact the Dialogue.

Balcony Man by Scott Virzi

NOTICE

Complaints of the backup of soapy water into residential kitchen sinks indicates that illegal washing machines may be in use in residential units. This article is being repeated to remind owners that the use of washing machines in residential units violates our declaration.

water and soap suds from individual machines, and there is the chance of a malfunction, which could cause severe damage to neighboring units and common elements. An example of what can happen occurred a few weeks ago when a washer malfunctioned and froze on the "fill" cycle. Before the water could be stopped, flooding caused water to run between the walls and seep into several units from the low 20s down to the sixth floor where it bottomed out. Some newly decorated hallways were also affected. The owner of the washer will incur all charges for any and all damage to both neighboring units and common elements.

To prevent this situation from reoccurring in the future, PLEASE do not install washers or dryers and, if you already have them in your unit, PLEASE do not use them. We have newly decorated and well-maintained laundry facilities for your convenience.

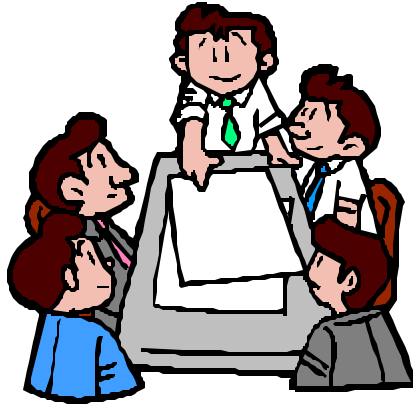


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The MECA discussion group's cure for the blahs

by Betty Mayian

At our monthly discussion group meeting we share thoughts and ideas. This is sometimes a lively and always interesting time.



We meet most months on the third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. in the Community Room on the 4th floor. All residents are welcome to participate. Watch for the meeting notice on the bulletin board in the garage foyer. Jan. 18 was a good time to talk about brightening up your days.

Of course a lot of people may be busy with work, family or other activities — but there are others who would like ideas to perk up a sluggish day. We began by noting that Tribune columnist Bob Condor suggested turning off the television, walking outdoors and drinking a lot of water. The 14 of us came up with a marvelous list of blues-chasing ideas.

Here they are:

- Paint (if you have the talent).
- Take a class at the Art Institute (to brush up that talent).
- Go to museums (find the free day for your favorites).
- Visit the library (volunteer there — always a need).
- Take up a new craft — or revisit an old favorite.
- Enjoy games? Join a group for cards or board games.
- Seek out companionship (shop with a friend).
- Go out every day.
- Northwestern (and other hospitals) has classes and seminars.
- Learn tai chi or yoga.
- Berger Park has aerobics for seniors (8:45 am Tue. & Thu.).
- Take a trip (even the CTA) to people watch downtown.
- Phone friends you haven't heard from in a long time (surprise them).
- Join a group (discussion, charity, church, temple, social).
- Write your memoirs, life history.
- Look at old photos or listen to nostalgic music.
- Take out season tickets to a theater group.
- Make a schedule — and keep it.
- Be a chauffeur to a friend or neighbor.
- Do community service (remember, MECA is a community too).
- Attend a class or teach a class (tutor someone).
- Compile a family history (genealogy).
- Remember — every day is a gift, so be grateful for every minute, and challenge yourself.

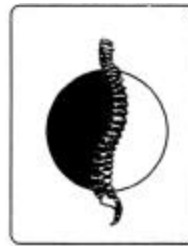
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The Malibu East Condominium Association **Dialogue** is published by resident volunteers to promote communication among owners, residents, Board of Directors, management and staff of the Malibu East Condominium, 6033 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660.

Articles and opinions by the MECA **Dialogue** staff and contributors are presented as their personal views and do not necessarily represent the views of the association or its Board of Directors and management.

Letters to the MECA **Dialogue** Committee are encouraged. Please be as brief as possible. The MECA **Dialogue** staff reserves the right to edit letters to fit available space and to print only those with constructive content. Letters to the committee may be left at the management office.



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