

# Malibu **East** Dialogue

January 2002

Your Communication and Information Resource

***Happy holidays to all from Malibu East***



Holiday event articles and pictures, pages 5, 6, 7 and 15.



MECA board notes, page 2  
Management report, page 12



# MECA board meeting notes

by Elaine Winans

## MECA board meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2001

Attendance: 10 board members, 2 management representatives and 12 residents

Not present: Allan Eckhardt, Scott Young

### OPEN FORUM 1

#### Resident comments and questions:

- 1) Has our 30 year-old electrical system been inspected? *Yes, it is inspected yearly with an infrared device that locates any wiring or bus bars that need replacement.*
- 2) What progress has been made on security improvements? *We will have a complete evacuation plan by the end of January. Fire drills will be implemented for residents and employees. The new (city required) signage will be installed. A safety educational program for residents and employees will also be implemented.*
- 3) How are other residential buildings coping with new safety rules concerning vendors and repair people? *New, stricter safety rules that have been put into action at other Sudler-managed buildings have been accepted better than we would have expected. Residents and vendors are responding favorably.*

### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves — \$2,604,477

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Rules and Regulations**  
We will find a new chairman to move the rules review process forward.
- 2) **Floor Representatives**  
We will have a meeting in January. A board member who reviewed the Floor Representative, Social and Admissions Committee's. new residents information packages discovered that regulations concerning water heaters and pans were not included. The management office

will provide these documents to these committees.

#### 3) Social

Sandy Chaet gave thanks to the committee for its work and to the residents for bringing food to the holiday party. The board gave a vote of appreciation to the chair and the committee for an exceptionally wonderful holiday party.

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.

#### 4) Commercial Property

The build-out for the new tenant (personal trainer) is 80% done. The lease date is Jan. 15. All CU tenants are current in rents. The beauty shop is holding an open house Sunday, Jan. 6. The committee will meet again early in January.

**We will have a complete evacuation plan by the end of January. Fire drills will be implemented for residents and employees.**

#### 5) Architecture & Aesthetics

We have received many positive comments on the new chairs and the rug in the lobby. We are considering modifying the square tabletop for safety reasons. We are also looking at options for the pots that hold the trees and plants to bring them into the new color scheme. The board complimented the committee's choice for the new mailroom carpet.

#### 6) Garage

A proposal is under consideration to reduce hourly rates (by coupon only) in the garage between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm. The proposal was referred back to committee to accommodate changes. By a

vote of 4 for, 3 against and 3 abstaining, the board reinstated the rule that requires parkers to actually be tandem parkers in order to advance to the single parking list.

#### 7) Security

Suggestion that this committee be reformed as a standing committee in order to open it up to non-board residents who have experience in this field.

### MANAGEMENT REPORT

#### Items requiring board action

##### 1) Board committee appointments

(See page x)

##### 2) Elevator repairs

Work approved to fix the Malibu Captain's Walk elevator hydraulic system and the Malibu East freight elevator floor reader.

##### 3) New copier update

The price of the copier that matches our specifications is \$31,000.

#### Items not requiring board action

##### 1) Exterior and balcony project

All cement work has been done except for extra breakout. Construction crews will be asked once again to clean up their personal garbage.

##### 2) North wall repairs

The temporary repairs are complete.

##### 3) Unit sales

8A \$335,000

##### 1) Garage report

#### Claims

Approved:	1
Denied:	0
Total:	1

#### Waiting lists

Single self-park:	87
Tandem self-park:	1
Second car:	5

#### Monthly parkers

Valet:	332
Tandem:	69
Single:	143
Preferred:	2
Engineer:	NC
Motocycle:	2
Total:	548

New monthlies:	1
Cancellations:	3

The meeting ended at 9:45 pm and went into closed session.

## 2001-2002 MECA committees

### *Special Committees* (Board members only)

#### **Admissions**

Martina Molins (Chair)  
Larry Creter (Vice-Chair)  
Ila Chaiken  
Allan Eckardt  
Janice Krzesinski  
Jo Anne Meshbom

#### **Communications**

Tom Vaughan (Chair)  
Larry Creter (Vice-Chair)  
Ila Chaiken  
Charles Cooper  
Janice Krzesinski  
Scott Young

#### **Finance & Insurance**

Tom Vaughan (Chair)  
Jo Anne Meshbom (Vice-Chair)  
Janice Krzesinski  
Martina Molins  
Richard Strauss  
Scott Young

#### **Long-Range Planning**

Scott Young (Chair)  
Charles Cooper  
Ila Chaiken  
Larry Creter  
Richard Strauss  
Tom Vaughan

#### **Grievances and Appeals**

(Board Officers)  
Marcel Molins  
Richard Strauss  
Tom Vaughan  
Jo Anne Meshbom  
Allan Eckardt  
Larry Creter  
Ila Chaiken

#### **Special Projects**

Allan Eckardt (Chair)  
Richard Strauss (Vice-Chair)  
Charles Cooper  
Larry Creter  
Tom Vaughan  
Scott Young

#### **Employees' Christmas Fund**

Jo Anne Meshbom (Chair)  
Tom Vaughan (Vice-Chair)  
Sandy Chaet  
Allan Eckardt  
Janice Krzesinski  
Richard Strauss

#### **Garage Committee**

Martina Molins (Chair)  
Richard Strauss (Vice-Chair)  
Sandy Chaet  
Larry Creter  
Ila Chaiken  
Allan Eckardt

#### **Security Committee**

Ila Chaiken (Chair)  
Larry Creter (Vice-Chair)  
Sandy Chaet  
Charles Cooper  
Allan Eckardt  
Scott Young

#### **Standing Committees & Liaisons**

(Membership open to residents. A chair is elected at the committee's first meeting)

Liaisons are board members

#### **Architecture & Aesthetics**

Allan Eckardt  
Larry Creter

#### **Landscaping & Physical Plant**

Scott Young  
Richard Strauss

#### **Commercial Unit**

Janice Krzesinski  
Tom Vaughan  
Sandy Chaet  
Marcel Molins  
Charles Cooper

#### **Dialogue**

Larry Creter  
Ila Chaiken

#### **Floor Representatives**

Ila Chaiken  
Marcel Molins  
Scott Young

#### **Garage**

Martina Molins  
Richard Strauss

#### **Legal**

Janice Krzesinski  
Martina Molins

#### **Public & Community Affairs**

Sandy Chaet  
Ila Chaiken  
Janice Krzesinski

#### **Social, Educational & Recreational**

Larry Creter  
Sandy Chaet  
Richard Strauss  
Tom Vaughan

#### **Rules & Regulations**

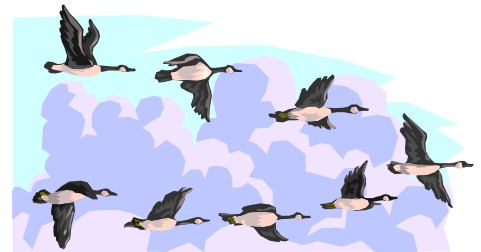
Charles Cooper  
Tom Vaughan  
Scott Young

#### **Pet Committee**

Larry Creter  
Sandy Chaet

#### **Parent Committee**

Allan Eckardt  
Tom Vaughan



### **Notice to snowbirds**

If you are going to be out of town for the winter season, keep up with MECA events by having the Dialogue mailed to your winter home. Leave your name, unit number, winter address and MECA phone number at the doorman's station or at the management office in an envelope addressed to the Dialogue editor. Also include the **dates** of your **departure** and **return**.

# Community Calendar

by Rose Wandel



## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

### **BERGER PARK CULTURAL CENTER**

#### **Winter classes**

Starts Jan. 7, registration ongoing

#### **Live at 6205**

#### **A Planting of the Peace**

Songs performed by Radiance with Brightness. Audience members will receive a plant.

Jan. 18, 7 pm

6205 N. Sheridan Rd.

312-742-7871

### **BROADWAY ARMORY**

#### **Learn to fly**

Flying trapeze lessons sponsored by the Chicago Park District and the Flying Gaonas

All ages, 2-hr. lessons, \$60 per class or \$360 for 8 classes.

Fri. 4 & 6 pm; Sat. 10 am, 1, 2, & 5 pm; Sun. 1, 3, & 5 pm

#### **Winter classes**

Starts Jan. 7, registration ongoing.

5917 N. Broadway

312-742-7502

### **EDGEWATER**

#### **MEDICAL CENTER**

#### **Senior Center programs**

5700 N. Ashland Ave.

773-797-1095

### **EDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

#### **CAPS 24<sup>th</sup> Dist. Beat #33SD**

Come meet our beat police.

Wednesday, Jan. 2, 7 pm

(1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of every month)

#### **Internet basics**

Learn mouse skills, www, e-mail

1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of month

1210 W. Elmdale

312-744-0718

### **KIWANIS CLUB NORTH SHORE**

#### **Meetings every Tuesday**

For Edgewater, Andersonville and Uptown residents and business people who want to participate in community service. Call Kim Kaulas

773-761-3668

### **ROGERS PARK – WEST RIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

#### **Chicago Bungalow Exhibit**

Thru Jan. 27, call for info.

Wed. & Fri. 10 am-5 pm, Thu. 7-9 pm

6424 N. Western Ave.

773-764-4078

### **SWEDISH AMERICAN MUSEUM CENTER**

#### **Between Cultures**

Photo exhibit of children of immigrants in Chicago.

Opens Jan. 17, Tue.-Sun., 10 am – 5 pm

5211 N. Clark St.

773-728-8111

### **WHITE CRANE WELLNESS CENTER**

Adult day wellness programs for 60 and over. Gentle yoga, tai chi, music exercise, socializing, lunch and snacks. Transportation provided within boundary area.

1355 W. Foster Ave.

773-271-9001

### **WOMEN & CHILDREN FIRST**

#### **Discussion:**

*“Jane Eyre”*

Jan. 15, 7:30 pm

*“Jane Addams and the Dream of American Democracy”*

Jan. 16, 7:30 pm

*“Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare”*

Jan. 23, 7:30 pm

*“The Unsavvy Traveler: Women’s Comic Tales of Catastrophe”*

Jan. 25, 7:30 pm

5233 N. Clark St.

773-769-9299

## THEATER/SHOWINGS

### **CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY**

*“Uncle Fred in the Springtime”*

8 pm Thu.-Sat., 3 pm Sun. \$18-\$22

Edgewater Presbyterian Church

1020 W. Bryn Mawr

773-293-3682

### **GRIFFIN THEATRE**

*“Point-Click”*

Docudrama about aftermath of school shooting.

Jan. 13-Mar. 3

Call for time and cost.

5404 N. Clark St.

773-769-2228

### **INCLUSION ARTS GALLERY**

**Come Together, Artists Unite**

World Trade Center victim’s

benefit performance

Free, thru Feb. 2

Call for times and dates.

773-755-5752

6932 N. Glenwood

773-465-6081

## COMMUNITY EVENTS/ MEETINGS

### MEETINGS

#### **Heart to Heart**

Edgewater elderly assistance, transportation, visit.

Contact Mary Ann Collins.

6214 N. Glenwood

773-973-5752

## MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

### **Beauty salon holiday party**

Sunday, Jan. 6

2-5:00 pm — Captain’s Walk

### **Dialogue Committee meeting**

Tuesday, Jan. 15

7:30 pm — Community Room

### **Thursday afternoon**

**discussion group**

Thursday, Jan. 17

(every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of month)

2:00 pm — Community Room

### **MECA board meeting**

Tuesday, Jan. 22

7:30 pm — Windjammer Room

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

## Door winter decorating contest results

by Jack Winans

Our door-decorating contest took into account every decoration that was remotely a “winter holiday motif.” We did not consider spring, summer or fall decorations or anything that was placed on the floor. We also eliminated package bows and magazine cutouts. There are many decorations hanging that were interesting but not relevant to the holiday season.

The decorations counted included wreaths made out of rope, twigs, dried flowers, evergreen and cloth. We found bows in every shape and size, with some hanging almost to the floor. Holiday greetings were spelled out in letters made of wood and cloth. Snowmen, stockings, Santas, calendars, French horns, bells, dolls, pinecones and poinsettias were the elements of many decorations.

Some units had multiple decorations, and a few floors had none at all. Noon Sunday, Dec. 16, nine days before Christmas, was our cutoff date. Many more units were decorated after this date; unfortunately we were unable to include them in the contest by publication time. All residents who accepted the opportunity to be judges asked to remain anonymous.

### Some statistics

There were a total of 175 units decorated, some with both doors, with a total of 196 decorations. The 45<sup>th</sup> floor had a communal decoration at the end of the hall. Decorated units per floor ranged from none to eight with an average of 4.1. An average of 14.5 units per tier were decorated.

### Grand Prize for the best-decorated unit—5F

5F’s door was decorated as a Christmas gift and also included a wreath and a motion detection switch for holiday music.

### First prize—44C

**The largest decoration—45 hall**  
**Best traditional wreaths—9C, 23C, 38B, 39L, 44C**



The traditional wreath is a circle of fresh or imitation evergreen boughs with a predominately red or crimson bow. It may have other accoutrements, but it must have those two details.

### Best all-natural decoration—36B

### Best calendars—22B, 31D

### Best crèche—39D

### Best door-hanging—20C

### Best Hanukkah Decoration—30C

### Best musical motif—23A

### Best non-traditional wreath—5F, 32H

### Best Santa—30G

### Best Spirit of Xmas decoration—5E

5E had a homemade tree with candy canes and a sign saying, “Merry Christ-



mas, help yourself.” (see page 15)

### Best stuffed stocking—37M

### Best use of berries, holly or poinsettias—20G, 37A, 44C

### Best use of candles—23C

### Best use of church bells—6A, 12H, 21J

### Best use of dried plant—36B

### Best use of ornaments—12E, 25D

### Best use of pinecones—34H

### Best use of ribbon—26L

### Best use of sleigh bells—38D, 43G

### Best word message—36L

### Most “child-like” appeal—30G, 31H, 39D

### Most colorful—4M, 30A, 33L, 34A

### Most patriotic—7B

### Most patriotic floor—44

### Most petite—5J, 18E, 21G, 33H, 40G, 43J

### Most thoughtful—6M

### Most unusual non-traditional wreaths—33H, 34A, 35K, 41L, 43M

### More unusual decorations—5F, 6K

### Honorable mention—9J, 19D, 33K, 36G, 36J, 36K, 44C

### The floor with the most decorations—36, with 11

*The floors with the most units decorated were 11, 20, 23 and 36 with 8 each.*

*D tier had the most decorations and units decorated.*



## Holiday party

by Betty Mayian

This year, as always, I performed the duty of serving drinks to the Malibu East residents at our annual holiday party. It always seems a struggle to keep the people served quickly and neatly without upsetting anyone or letting it "get out of control." I have to admit that, for whatever reason, this year was the most organized and well-run of any of our social events. We blocked the entrances to the tables so that we didn't get overloaded with well-meaning helpers in the serving section. The tables were laid out with food brought by residents and some donated by restaurants. The dominant display, though, was an immense birthday cake from the Swedish Bakery. The cake sat next to the drink section alongside the beautiful Christmas tree and was there to honor our oldest resident, Marika Assim, on her upcoming 100th birthday. (see page 8)

Her son, Mike, bought it and a case of champagne to share with all of us for his mother's special day. I could tell by the looks on everyone's face that they appreciated his kindness and goodwill. We told everyone who bought it and why. When the candles were lit and Marika was brought over to see it, Mike blew them out, and we all sang "Happy Birthday" to her. She was surprised and overwhelmed with the cake and the applause. The tears on her face said it all. This was a very special event that not many people have a chance to witness, a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

I also have to say that we had an exceptionally nice crowd this year. Sometimes we have some children behaving exuberantly and running around. This year everyone must have grown up because each and every one acted like little ladies and gentlemen. I felt so proud — almost like a grandmother. This is my thank you to them and to their parents for helping to keep harmony in such a large crowd. It was a beautiful evening. Next year let's hope more of our residents come down to share in our holiday spirit.



## The Festival of Lights

by Rose Wandel

Sunday, Dec. 9 was the first night of Hanukkah, and the residents of MECA celebrated in our lobby at 5:30 pm. This is a Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the temple in Jerusalem, when the family of Maccabees overthrew the Syrian/Greek warriors in the year 165 B.C.E. They removed all the statues and idols from the temple and found a crucible of sacred oil that they planned to burn for the rededication. However, there was only enough oil for one day. A miracle occurred and the oil lasted for eight days.

In honoring this victory, we light candles — one additional each night until a total of 8 are lit — and say a prayer. But the best part of the holiday is FOOD. Fried food is the thing! Usually there are potato pancakes or jelly-filled donuts; we at MECA had pancakes. And with it there was wine and music! If you missed it this year, plan to join us next year. I donated the pancakes, and Ruth Shorr played the recorder, to which we sang traditional songs. The wine and trimmings were from the Social Committee.



About 20 people joined in to see the menorah lit and wish everyone a "Happy Hanukkah!"

We did not play the dreidel game — we leave that for the children to do. It is a top that is spun. Each side of the top has a letter on it in Hebrew indicating that "a miracle happened there." The game is usually played with nuts in the shell as the tokens to collect. It's fun.

We hope that everyone enjoyed the event and seeing the candles lit each evening. May we have another miracle — peace in the world.



Ruth Shorr plays the recorder to accompany 20 singers (below left).

## Thanks

by Sandy Chaet

With such a pretty, decorative and festive lobby to celebrate in, thanks to all the residents who attended our holiday party on Thursday, Dec. 13. Your contributions were delicious and appreciated.

Thanks to Michael Assism for the birthday cake and champagne to celebrate Mary Assim's coming 100th birthday. Thanks to the Captains Walk's Fortune Lin, Malibu Cleaners, Malibu Convenient Store and Wagner Realty for their contributions and participation. Our thanks go also to the Wing Hoe Restaurant, Tedino's and Debbie's Catering of Ann Sather's. Please, when you visit and/or order from these establishments, say thank you to them in person also!

- Debbie's Catering 271-6677
- Fortune Lin 784-6936
- Malibu Cleaners 728-6013
- Convenient Food Mart 769-5440
- Tedino's 275-8100
- Wagner Realty 334-0200
- Wing Hoe Restaurant 275-4550



MECA lobby holiday party (top left); employee party (bottom left, bottom center)

## Someone you should know

By Rose Wandel

What were you doing in 1902? Yes, I said 1902. If you were in Adrianople, Greece, you heard about the birth of Mary (Marika) Assim.

The town was not so small since it boasted of a two-year college and many religious celebrities. But to Mary's parents, she was the baby of the family. Mary had two sisters and three brothers who doted on the new baby and loved her as only families can do.

Mary attended school and was able to complete high school in her hometown. Life was a series of ups and downs that all families endure, but it was during the years of World War I that the town was invaded and the residents all suffered in one way or another. The town was bombed by the Germans and nearby Bulgarians. Mary was sent to Yugoslavia to live with one of her sisters. By this time her father had passed on. When things quieted down, she, her mother and a brother went to Salonika. Other members of the family were living there, and a cousin introduced her to a young man who was a bank officer by profession. He courted her and they were married in 1929.

Mary and her husband decided to come to the U.S., and he went into business with an uncle and some cousins, selling dried fruits that they imported. Mary had two children — Michael and Ellie. With all her chores of raising her family, she was lonesome for her home and returned quite often over the years to Greece. Her husband decided to change his business and purchased and built four movie theaters. However, this was now 1948 and a new media came into being — television. Needless to say, the movie theater business declined, and one day he came home with just 48 cents in his pocket. His children were attending professional schools, and it was important to let them continue their education. The family pulled in their belts and “adjusted.” He decided to go into sales again, and through his previous contacts, was able to build up a



business selling other types of items — sundries and whatever else would fit in. Michael graduated from the Northwestern University

pharmacy school. Ellie graduated from Mundelein and became a dietician. Mary's activities were centered on her home, her church and her friends. She and Michael moved into Malibu East 27 years ago and she loves living here. Her pastimes are visiting with friends and with Ellie, who makes her home in Minneapolis. Mary loves to attend church and help whenever she can. One of her favorite foods is watermelon. A few years ago, she became ill and had to be hospitalized. This was a first — and she felt so pampered by the attention she received that she recuperated quickly. Mary used to walk every day for exercise up until the time she became ill. She now finds it tiring, and her excursions are limited to the building — unless someone wants to take her out. If you would like to meet a 100-year-old happy person, say hello to Mary. You will find her very eager to converse. I hope you have many more happy years at Malibu East, Mary. I enjoy having you as a friend!

## Beauty salon hosts holiday party

The Captain's Walk Sheridan Hair & Body Studio is hosting a holiday party for all residents and its customers. Please join them for refreshments from 2 to 5 pm Sunday, Jan. 6.



Mary Assim's son, Michael, gives her a birthday kiss.



Four generations celebrate Mary Assim's 100th birthday.



## Neighborhood businesses

compiled by Betty Mayian

### • Coffee Shops

#### Café Boost

5400 N. Clark – 907-8674

#### The Coffee & Tea Exchange

(Formerly Willow)

1100 W. Thorndale – 907-3500

#### Ennuï Café

6981 N. Sheridan Rd. – 973-2233

#### Konak Restaurant

5150 N. Clark – 271-6688

#### Madrigal's Café

5316 N. Clark – 334-3033

#### Panini Panini

6764 N. Sheridan – 761-7775

#### Peacock Cafe

5440 N. Sheridan Rd. – 275-1224

#### Starbucks Coffee

1070 W. Bryn Mawr Av. – 271-1998

#### Viva Java

1147 W. Granville — 274-8040

### • Ice Cream Parlors

#### Leona's Restaurant (sundaes)

6935 N. Sheridan – 764-5757

#### Simply Ice Cream

6744 N. Sheridan – 262-2706

#### Zephyr's

1777 W. Wilson Av. – 728-6070

### • Pizza Parlors

#### Aroma Pizzeria

1125 W. Berwyn Av. – 769-4900

#### Barry's Spot Pizza

5759 N. Broadway – 769-2900

#### Calo Pizzeria Restaurant

5343 N. Clark – 271-7725

#### Domino's Pizza

5912 N. Clark – 769-3030

#### Gino's North Pizzeria

1111 W. Granville Av. – 465-1616

#### Giordano's On Sheridan

6836 N. Sheridan – 262-1313

#### Hamilton's Pizza & Pub

6341 N. Broadway – 764-8133

#### Laurie's Pizzeria & Liquors

5153 N. Broadway – 561-3100

#### Leona's Pizzeria

6935 N. Sheridan – 292-4300

#### Monticello Pizzeria

5539 N. Clark – 728-6080

#### Pizza Mania

5777 N. Ridge – 275-2720

#### Primo Pizza

5600 N. Clark – 271-2233

#### Tedino's Pizzeria & Restaurant

5335 N. Sheridan – 275-8100

#### Vince's Pizzeria

1527 W. Devon – 274-7081

### • Neighborhood Bars

#### Clark's on Clark

5001 N. Clark – 728-2373

#### Double Bubble

6036 N. Broadway – 743-9465

#### Egan's Tavern

6001 N. Paulina – 743-2400

#### Farraguts

5240 N. Clark - 728-4903

#### Harrigan's Girl

6263 N. Clark – 743-9750

#### Hopleaf Bar

5148 N. Clark – 334-9851

#### Ole St. Andrew's Inn

5938 N. Broadway – 784-5540

#### The Pumping Co.

6157 N. Broadway – 743-7994

#### Simon's Tavern

5210 N. Clark – 878-0894

#### Sixpence

5947 N. Broadway – 878-2790

### • Sports Bars

#### Champions

6156 N. Clark – 743-1797

#### Fireside Restaurant & Lounge

5739 N. Ravenswood – 878-5942

#### Hamilton's

6341 N. Broadway – 764-8133

#### Ravenswood Pub

5455 N. Ravenswood – 769-6667

### • Theaters – Live

#### Billy Goat Experiment Theater Co.

(In residence at the Broadway Armory)

5917 N. Broadway – 250-3331

#### Boxer Rebellion Theater

1257 W. Loyola Av. – 465-7325

#### Center Theater

1346 W. Devon – 508-5422

#### City Lit Theater

(In Edgewater Presbyterian Church)

1020 W. Bryn Mawr – 293-3682

#### Lifeline Theatre

6912 N. Glenwood Av. – 761-4477

#### Loyola's Mullady Theatre

6525 N. Sheridan – 508-3830

#### Raven Theatre

6157 N. Clark – 338-2177

#### Red Hen Productions

5123 N. Clark – 728-0599

#### Scrap Mettle Soul

4600 N. Magnolia Av. – 275-3999

#### The Griffin Theatre Company

5404 N. Clark – 769-2228

### • Jazz Clubs

#### The Green Mill Cocktail Lounge

4802 N. Broadway – 878-5552

#### Jazz Supper Club

(at North Lakeside Cultural Center

Jan. 25, Feb. 22 and Mar. 22)

6219 N. Sheridan – 743-4477

## CHICAGO LANDMARKS architects



## Local homes honored

by Jack Winans

A plaque was recently laid in front of the parkway in front of 5917-5921 N. Magnolia Ave. It marks the June 2000 landmark status of the twin wood-and-stucco residences that grace this quiet wooded street behind Moody's on Broadway. Built for Chicago butcher John Gauler in 1908, the mirror-image homes are typical of the "prairie style." They were designed by W. B. Griffin who served an apprenticeship with Frank Lloyd Wright



Architech  
W.B. Griffin



## So now you own a condo, what next?

by Jack Winans

As a Malibu East owner you have some really great things going for you here. Great amenities, a board with a track record of sound financial decisions, a membership that is active in the running of our condo and the services of a skilled management team.

When you bought your unit, you received a huge packet of information including the Malibu East declaration, our bylaws and our current rules and regulations\*. Unless you have past condo ownership experience or if you really did read all of those documents, there might be a few surprises in store for you.

In condo life, the board of directors and the management team assume many of the responsibilities that you might have experienced while renting or owning a single home. The snow gets plowed, your garage gets cleaned, your deliveries get stored for you while you are away and all of the elements of the building outside of your unit magically get maintained without any effort on your part.

But what is different is that you are no longer the king of your single-family home castle; you are now part of a larger community of people and you have certain responsibilities to that community. All of those rules, the declaration and the bylaws are designed to make the interactions of this community practical if not always pleasant. The old saw goes, "You can't please everybody," but at least we can strive for harmony through fair and impartial implementation of these documents.

In order for this to happen, you need to know just what your responsibilities are to your neighbors. We can't specify all of them because many instances arise only when there is a disagreement or need for interpretation, but we can list the major items that unit owners commonly are confronted with.

### 1. Water heater

That water heater outside your unit in the hallway does not belong to

Malibu East. It is yours! And any damage that may be caused to the common elements or to other units is your responsibility — whether you are negligent or not. So, if you are not sure if it is in good working order or in compliance with Chicago ordinances or Malibu East specifications, have a licensed Chicago plumber check it out using details available through the management office. Most, but not all, water heaters in the building are up to code with an overflow pan under the unit, but even with this pan, a burst water heater can cause flood damage to many units below. It's cheaper to replace an old water heater than pay the repair bills of neighbors who have damage from your leaking heater.



### 2. Pets

The rules for pets are designed to be fair for pet owners and non-pet owners alike. They are also enforceable, mainly through the provision of having pets removed when owners fail to follow the rules. The two most common infractions are owners who fail to control dogs that are belligerent and failure to follow the leash rule inside and the Chicago leash ordinance outside. You love your pet, but not everyone is comfortable with pets "close up." So please keep your pet on a leash and away from other pets and people. Don't let your pet approach other pets and people unless you have their permission. Even some very small pets are just not friendly; so don't reach out to pet them without permission.

### 3. Insurance

The structural floor, walls and ceiling of your unit are part of the common elements and the responsibility of the association. Everything else inside the walls of your unit is your responsibility, and you need insurance coverage in case of fire, water damage (remember that water heater) and accidents. Check with

the management office for further details and suggestions for coverage. You might want to get coverage from the same agency that covers our building to facilitate claims.

### 4. Assessments and garage fees

You are responsible for paying your assessment by the first of the month. There is a 15-day leeway, but that doesn't mean you can mail it the 15th or even the 10th. If the mail is late (as it often is), it is still your responsibility to have your assessments posted by the 15th. If you are not receiving your garage fees bill, you are still responsible for timely payment.

### 5. Noise

Our declaration includes this statement: "No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on in any Residential Unit or in the Common Elements, nor shall anything be done therein, either willfully or negligently, which may be or become an annoyance or nuisance to the other Owners or Occupants."

This includes "noise" if it becomes a nuisance. The most common "noise" complaint is a neighbor's TV or stereo system, especially bass notes that easily carry through walls and can be very infuriating. Raising speakers up off of the floor and keeping speakers and TVs away from outside "boundary" walls can eliminate this common complaint. Also, minimize complaints by keeping reasonable party hours and "noisy" guests off your balcony. Remember, other residents may be sleeping with open windows just a few feet away.

### 6. Common areas

So, by now you understand that you're not quite the king of your castle, but you do have access to lots of amenities and so-called "common areas."

#### a) *The hallway outside your door*

This is a "common area" and it belongs to everyone in the building including you, but it is NOT part of your unit, not even the few feet out-

side your door. It is not a storage area for those wet umbrellas, those muddy shoes. It is also not a place for parking that cute seasonal figure or even a place for a welcome mat. The hallway must be kept clear of all items that could remotely be considered a hazard or obstruction in an emergency such as a smoke-filled corridor.

#### **b) Your balcony**

Your balcony is an “exclusive easement” and is for your use only with certain restrictions that are listed in the declaration and in the rules. You can’t enclose it, carpet it, paint it or alter it. You have to maintain care that items don’t blow off. You can’t sweep or shake out your inside carpets on the balcony (remember those close neighbors.) Also, please don’t hose down your balcony or windows/screens — the wastewater is going to drown your neighbors below.

#### **c) Barbecues**

Barbecuing is permitted only with a fully covered grill, and don’t use starter fluid, use an electric starter — starter fluid has an especially noxious odor. (Remember all those open windows around you.) Propane or any bottled gas is also a no-no. An explosion could take out several units in your tier.

#### **d) Lobby**

No meetings (unless MECA-sanctioned), loitering, running, roller-skating or playing are permitted in the corridors and lobby. Basically, it’s not a play area for your children or an extension of your living room.

### **7. Home remodeling**

Resident’s construction activities are limited to 8 am to 8 pm weekdays and 10 am to 7 pm weekends and on holidays. You also have the responsibility of obtaining all proper building permits and notifying management seven days prior to major unit alteration. One of the requirements is the inclusion of a sound barrier between the concrete floor and any new flooring surface. It is also a good-neighbor policy.

### **8. Bicycles**

Bicycles must be registered with the management office if you are going to store them in the bicycle room or use the “temporary” outside bike rack.

### **9. Smoking**

This is a no-smoking building. The only exceptions are: your unit, the Windjammer Room as specified by the room renter and the outside of the building. The no-smoking rule also applies to the commercial unit lobby, shops and offices.

### **10. Elevators**

Perhaps the most ignored rules are those that should make elevator access fair and trouble-free for all of us. Simply put — the freight elevator is NOT a passenger elevator. If you use it as a more convenient passenger elevator, you are slowing down access to it for those who MUST use it. If you use the passenger elevators for dogs, luggage, carts, large packages, you are intruding on the comfort zone of other passengers in these smaller elevators.

### **11. Special rooms**

The Windjammer, Community, Exercise rooms and many others are available for your use for free or for a minimal use fee. Check the rules for your responsibilities when using these rooms.

### **12. The doormen**

The doormen are instructed and trained to accept small packages, messages, inform you of visitors, maintain the security of the lobby elevator door and log complaints when the management office is closed. It seems that they have an endless list of duties and responsibilities. Do not distract them with unnecessary conversation.

### **13. Security**

Security is everyone’s responsibility. Do not open security doors for or let anyone whom you do not know follow you into a secure area. If they are residents, they will gladly

show you their common-area key. Don’t be annoyed if a doorman asks if you live here — that’s his job and your assurance that security rules are being enforced. From time to time, our security rules may be amended to measure up to current world events.

Often food deliverymen place advertising fliers on the unit doors of several floors and occasionally leaflet the entire building. The time and the floors that have been affected should be reported to management immediately. This is a serious security breach that management responds to with prompt action.

*This article is not intended to explain all of the nuances of our declaration or cover all of our rules and regulations. It is intended to convey an understanding of the differences between single-family homes and community living. All residents/owners of any community-type dwelling have the responsibility of obtaining, reading and understanding the documents that specify their rights and responsibilities.*

*\*Additional copies of these documents are available for a fee in the management office. They are also available FREE as a download at our Website [www.MalibuEast.org](http://www.MalibuEast.org), along with a link to the latest version of the Illinois Condominium Act.*

*Our condolences to the family and friends of*

*Thirza Fussi,  
who passed away  
in December.*

*Thirza was  
one of the original  
Malibu East owners.*



## What's happening around the building

by Vito Senese  
MECA Association Manager



### Free poinsettias

Each year our lobby is decorated with large, beautiful poinsettias. They are given away free each year on a first-come, first-serve basis when lobby decorations are removed. If you would like to give a poinsettia a post-season home, please sign up in the management office to receive a free poinsettia. You will be notified when they will be available. Free printed care instructions are available.

### Christmas tree disposal

Any resident who needs to dispose of a Christmas tree can do so by calling the management office at 271-1732. The office will schedule an appointment to have the building staff come to your unit and take your tree down



to the loading dock so that it can be removed from the property. If you are unable to call the management office, you may leave a note with the front desk, and the office staff will contact you to schedule the removal of your tree.

Please do not remove your Christmas tree by yourself because you may cause unnecessary work for the building staff by leaving pine needles and tree branches in the hallways and elevators.

Contact the management office for additional information.

From all indications, the winter of 2001-02 will be remembered for the unusually warm temperatures and the lack of snow in November and December. But no matter what the weather, you can rest assured that your building staff is prepared for the worst winter weather conditions Mother Nature can offer.

The crews are still working on the exterior fascia and balcony repairs on the east and south sides of the building due to the mild weather conditions. The crews are painting on the east side of the building. Residents on the east side of the building are **NOT** allowed to have **ANYTHING** on their balconies until all the work is completed. The crews are doing some breakout in the C & L tiers while they are also patching and grinding on the J, G and E tiers. The work on both sides of the building will continue as long as weather permits. When the work stops due to cold weather, it will start again in March 2002, weather permitting.

The Board of Directors has instituted new procedures for all deliveries into the building. They will need your cooperation and support in implementing these new procedures in order for them to be effective. They thank you in advance for your compliance.

There are several big projects slated for 2002. The main one will be the completion of the exterior balcony and fascia repairs on the east and south sides of the building. Once this project is completed, the staff will begin to paint the balcony railings. The board is in the process of finalizing a program using our staff to paint balcony floors for those residents who would like to have a uniform color membrane. Once the details are finalized, a notice will be issued to owners.

We welcome Kathy Katz back to the receiving room after her brief medical leave for foot surgery. We extend our best wishes to her for a happy and healthy new year.

### Is your dog vaccinated?

by Jack Winans

A current Chicago Tribune article stated that there were 750,000 dogs in Chicago, of whom only 150,000 (20%) have current rabies vaccinations and only 12,000 (1.7%) have city licenses.

The following excerpt from our MECA Rules and Regulations clearly states that MECA owners must comply with city ordinances as they apply to pets.

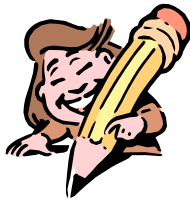
#### XXI PETS

- A. Residents who keep dogs and cats in the building must register their pets with the Management Office, and shall otherwise be registered and inoculated as required by law. Each year, you must furnish a copy of current vaccinations to the Management Office. Failure to provide Management with a copy of current vaccinations each year gives the Board of Managers the authority to have the pet(s) permanently removed from the building.

Adopted April 14, 1998

**Dear Etta Kitt,**

My neighbor put a mat in front of her door. It curls and makes the hallway look sloppy, but I said, live and let live. Now with winter and the sloppy weather here, she's leaving boots, shoes and umbrellas out, also. It wouldn't be so bad if they were there for a short time while they dried, but they stay there day after day. She is not very friendly, and I'm apprehensive about bringing my concerns to her attention. I know that the MECA Declaration prohibits personal items in the common-area hallway, but I'm guilty also as I always hang a seasonal wreath on my door. What should I do?



**Miss Apprehensive,**

I can sympathize with your concerns about "bearding the lion in the den," as unfortunately, like in all communities, we do have some people with rather vile dispositions. I also understand your concern about appearing equally guilty; however, this is where common sense comes into play. We need to be tolerant of the actions of our neighbors, but not to the extent where they diminish property values or compromise our safety. A wreath on a door is not a safety problem, but using one's front door, as a storage area for offensive or dirty items is not acceptable. The outside of your front door is part of your home also, and you have every right to complain to management when you feel offended.

Any item left on the hallway floor, including a doormat, no matter how pleasing to the eye, is a safety concern as it can impede the safe access or exit of firemen or your neighbors in the event that a fire fills the hallway with smoke. It also interferes with the safety of vision-impaired individuals.

Once again, I urge you to use common sense and apply the Golden Rule.

**'Town Crier' announcements  
by Betty Mayian**



**Get on the calendar**

If you have an event scheduled for Malibu East, a committee meeting or a social group that meets regularly, be sure to have it entered in the Malibu East calendar at [www.MalibuEast.org](http://www.MalibuEast.org). Contact our Webmaster, Larry Rosen, by leaving a message at the desk or via e-mail: [Feedback@MalibuEast.org](mailto:Feedback@MalibuEast.org).

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

**Balcony Man by Scott Virzi**



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## 2001 holiday display

by Jack Winans

This year's winter door-decorating contest resulted in 64 awards. In addition to being listed as a winner in the article on page 5, business-card-size-laminated mementoes were passed out to unit residents with this issue of the Dialogue. The Dialogue has prepared a holiday display that can be seen in the Community Room. The display consists of color reprints of winter holiday events from current and past Dialogues and photos of this year's holiday events, Malibu East decorations and unit door decorations.

Best crèche, 39D



Best Spirit of Christmas decoration and award memento.



Malibu East Dialogue

**2001 Winter Door  
Decorating contest.**

Unit 5E  
Best  
Spirit of Christmas  
Decoration

### The Dialogue

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.



### MECA MARKETPLACE

*Advertisement design FREE!  
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# Malibu **East** Dialogue

Malibu East Condominium Association  
6033 N Sheridan Road  
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**Your Malibu East  
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