

Malibu East Dialogue

December 2003

Your Communication and Information Resource

Construction project changes traffic patterns

The north wall project

An interview with MECA Director Richard Strauss

By Jack Winans

Now that the north wall repair work with its gaping hole is obvious to everyone, many residents have questions and concerns about this project.

Why is the work being done on the north wall necessary?

Because the exterior brick wall was deteriorating and the interior cinder block was found to be unstable.

We just got back to normal after the balcony project. Why the haste to do this now?

We are working under a court order deadline from the City of Chicago Building Court.

What work is being done to repair the north wall?

The construction crew is removing the unstable sections of the structure and replacing them with similar but newly engineered sections.

What optional repair solutions were considered?

The board considered using panels to replace the brick façade. The options considered included faux brick, pre-cast concrete panels, etc.

How much of the north wall will be rebuilt?

Just the part over the entrance and exit on Glenlake. It will be done in two sections. Currently the area over the Glenlake entrance is under construction. As soon as the inner cinder block wall in this section is replaced, the workers will start the breakout of the section over the Glenlake exit area.

Will the west end of the garage wall or the rest of the north wall be replaced also?

No, there might be some brickwork in

these areas later. We are salvaging much of the brick that is being removed so that it can be used in those areas for repairs when and if it becomes necessary.

How much will this project cost, and will it affect my assessments?

The cost will be approximately \$500,000, but we hope that it will be completed under this estimate.

It will not affect assessments because that amount is in the budget for this project and we had accumulated sufficient reserve funds to cover this expense.

With this big an opening, will the garage be colder than normal this winter?

The garage, as you know, is not heated, but is normally a few degrees warmer than the outside air because it is enclosed. Fans and vents bring in fresh air and expel automobile exhaust fumes. The construction process is designed to minimize the winter cold effect by limiting the exposure area to half the work site at one time. The inner wall of cinder blocks will be constructed before the outer wall of bricks is laid. We are hoping that we will have the cinder block portion done and the opening closed before the really cold weather sets in.

Will the construction dust and cold affect my automobile?

The condo and the contractor will do everything possible to eliminate dust and cold, but there obviously will be some increase in dust and cold. You may have to get your car cleaned more often. Also, keep your car windows closed and convertible tops on. You may also need to allow extra time to



warm up your car.

When will normal traffic patterns be returned to the atrium?

When the work is done. We can only anticipate a very wide range that will depend entirely on the weather. The work could be done as soon as the first of the year or perhaps as late as May depending on the weather.

May I also add that the board of directors trusts that our residents realize that the noise, dust and the inconvenient traffic patterns caused by this construction work is absolutely necessary and unavoidable. We thank you for your patience and forbearance.

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MECA board meeting notes

by Elaine Winans

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.

MECA board meeting

Tuesday, November 25

Attendance: 10 board members, 2 management representatives and 9 residents
Not present: Sandy Chaet, Neil Warner

OPEN FORUM 1

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) In the new budget, why are monthly parking rates increased while hourly parking is reduced? *Revenue from longer term hourly parking, the only rates being lowered, is minimal. The lower long-term hourly rates are being implemented to attract more parking.*
- 2) Can we insert windows into the garage access doors so that you can see someone coming from the other side? *These are fire doors, refitting with windows would run into thousands of dollars. However, when we next re-stripe the garage, we will consider creating aisles to improve access to the garage access doors.*
- 3) A resident suggested that mass-dialing programs were available that could be used to contact all of the residents in an emergency.

INTRODUCTION

New Sudler Representative

President Molins introduced our new Sudler representative, James J. Hardy, Sudler Vice President.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves — \$2,586,972.87.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Rules and Regulations/Legal**
Marcel Molins
Within two to three months, the committee will present to the board, a revised copy of the Rules & Regulations for review and action.
- 2) **Floor Representatives**
Tom Vaughan
Next meeting 7:30pm Dec. 10.
- 3) **Security**
Larry Creter

At the Nov. 18 meeting, we reviewed the new security programs established last year. All the new rules and procedures are working well. The loading dock gates are still not installed. We are reviewing the bids and specifications again as we are still not sure of the style and appearance of the gates.

During the recent fire, several people took an ill-advised trip down the stairwell. Residents are reminded that the safest action is to remain in their units and leave only at the direction of the fire department. Another director commented that in the history of the building,

NOTICE When exiting the exercise room, please turn off the lights and all equipment.

there have been only two serious fires and that both of them were contained within the units and even within the rooms where the fires started. Residents are cautioned not only to remain in their units, but also to refrain from opening their doors to inspect the hallway if they smell smoke.

The generator is tested on a regular basis. An audit has been done on the safety of the building. Security keys may be reissued electronically to eliminate the possibility of keys in the hands of non-residents.

4) Social

Richard Strauss reporting for Sandy Chaet
The Council of Jewish Elderly presented a program for ALL seniors. About 20 people were in attendance.
Holiday party will be in the lobby at 6pm Dec. 18. Refreshments provided, but finger food donations are most welcome.

Hanukkah first candle lighting is in the lobby at 5:30pm Dec. 19.

The Harrah's Casino trip was very successful, about 30 people went. A future trip is planned for spring.

5) Architecture & Aesthetics

Larry Creter.

We will start planning hallway decorating at the next meeting. We need volunteers to help with outside holiday decorating on Dec. 6.

6) ASCO report

(See page 7)

7) Garage report

Claims

Approved:	1
Denied:	0
Total:	1

Waiting lists

Single self-park:	52
Tandem self-park:	0
Second car:	0

Monthly parkers

Single:	142
Tandem:	55
Valet:	312
Preferred:	2
Engineer:	NC
Motorcycle:	0
Total:	511
New monthlies:	2
Cancellations:	5
Upgrades:	0

8) Long Range Plans & Special Projects

Jon Heller

The handicap access is still in the planning stage. It was suggested, since resident access to the Community Room has been curtailed due to the recent increase in committee meetings, that meetings be moved to the Windjammer Room if possible.

9) Building Maintenance & Services

Carol Beatty

We are having all of the unit entrance doors cleaned, shined and the hardware checked. The shower room dividers and the exercise room matt will be replaced.

MANAGEMENT REPORT**Items requiring board action**

- 1) **Safety/fire drill**
Suggestions were made to run fire-drill training, floor by floor.
- 2) **Saturday deliveries.**
Although our rules and regulations allow Saturday deliveries, management and the consensus of the board takes the position that current Saturday staffing severely restricts Saturday deliveries. The topic was tabled to the next meeting.
- 3) **Window replacement program**
Have not found a vendor that will charge unit owners directly.
- 4) **Final payments**
Roofing project and balcony project, final payments approved.
- 5) **Reserve funds investments**
Over the past ten years, reserve funds have been divided into three investment types: 1/3 to insured money market accounts, 1/3 to government securities and 1/3 to Treasury Direct six-month bills. Approval was given to the treasurer to diversify the latter third into other government securities or CDs in order to enhance our return on investments.
- 6) **North wall**
We will try to recover 5,000 bricks that can be used in any future repairs to the brick façade. Once we have removed both sections (over the Glenlake exit and entrance), we will have satisfied the court order. (See page 1 for north wall story.)
- 7) **Garage structure**
Our engineers have put together a proposal for testing and establishing priorities for garage repairs. The engineering contract was approved. Authorization for progress payments on the work was delegated to the 1st Vice President.

Items not requiring board action

- 1) **North wall repairs status**
A panel of the proposed bricks will be available for board members to compare with the current brick color.
 - 2) **New interior signage**
All have been installed.
- The meeting ended at 10:10pm and went into closed session.



What's happening around the building

by Vito Senese, MECA Association Manager

The building staff has been very busy over the past few weeks decorating the interior and exterior of the building for the holidays. They are also prepared for the cold and snow that will be here soon. The snow removal equipment is tuned up and ready to go. There is plenty of ice melt on hand to help them battle the elements.

The north garage wall replacement project is underway and the crews have removed both the exterior and interior walls from the west portion of the north garage wall. Once the new interior concrete block wall is installed, the crews will begin the removal of the rest of both walls. When the crews shift their work area, the traffic pattern in the atrium will be changed. All residents will receive a written notice with a map showing the changes in the atrium traffic pattern.

The holiday season is just around the corner and a letter will be issued to all residents and owners regarding the annual holiday building fund for the staff. When you receive the letter, please take a minute to read it and hopefully you will feel obligated to contribute to the fund, which is distributed to all the building staff. Should you make a contribution, your consideration and generosity is greatly appreciated.

The Malibu East staff is committed to

serve the residents and owners in the building at the highest level possible. I want to thank them all for their hard work and dedication over the past year. I consider myself very fortunate to be part of the Malibu East family and work alongside such loyal and motivated people. I look forward to continued success in 2004 and I want to extend my best wishes to the staff, residents and owners for a joyous holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

A reminder to all residents, if a fire occurs on the floor where you live, immediately call 911 and notify the building staff giving them the address and floor number where the fire is. The Chicago Fire Department recommends that you STAY IN your apartment unless directed otherwise.

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where the fire is. The Chicago Fire Department recommends that you STAY IN your apartment unless directed otherwise. Due to the fire-resistant construction of high-rise buildings, your apartment is usually the safest place to be. Keep your door closed and seal the door. If conditions worsen in your apartment, call 911 and your building office to inform them of your problem and give them your apartment number. If heat and smoke start to build up in your unit, slightly open a window and wait for the fire department to reach you. If you are in a smoke-filled area, stay close to the ground where the air is fresher. Make sure your smoke detector has batteries and is working.

Condominium forum

Seventh annual review & forecast of trends for community associations. For association directors, committee members, managers, professionals, vendors, etc. Gain insight on how to deal with special issues of community associations including government regulations,

fire safety and the Chicago Building code from industry experts. An afternoon affair starting at 1:15 pm Dec. 11 at The Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton Street. Call Condo Lifestyles magazine at 630-932-5551 for more information or for subscriptions.

Source: Michael Davids, Editor & Publisher, Condo Lifestyles

Community Calendar

by Rose Wandel



Hunwick.
3-4pm Dec. 13
Classics book discussion
A Christmas Carol by
Charles Dickens
7pm Dec. 15
1210 W. Elmdale
312-744-0718

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

THEATER/SHOWINGS

BOXER REBELLION THEATRE "Assassins"

Musical by Steven Sondheim
depicting failures and successes in
drive for power in American
society since the time of Lincoln.
Thru Dec. 20, \$15
80m Thu.-Sat.
1257 W. Loyola
773-465-7325

CHICAGO JEWISH THEATER "The Speaking Head and Other Scary Jewish Stories"

Short stories from Jewish
mysticism featuring a talking head,
an angry corpse, demons and
angels.
8pm Thu.-Sun., 3pm Sun., \$25
5123 N. Clark
773-728-0599

CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY "The Play's the Thing"

P.G. Wodehouse adaptation, a
farce.
Thru Jan. 11, \$18, \$25
8pm Thu.-Sat., 3pm Sun.
1020 W. Bryn Mawr
773-293-3682

LIFELINE THEATRE

"The Cricket in Times Square"
For ages 4-8. How you find
friendship where you least expect
it.
Thru Dec. 14, \$8
1 & 3pm Sat., 1pm Sun.
6912 N. Glenwood
773-761-4477

RAVEN THEATRE **disOriented**

An original comedy revue, written
& performed by Stir-Friday night!
8:30pm Thu.-Sat., 3:30pm Sun.
Thru Dec. 6
\$15, \$12 students/seniors
6157 N. Clark
773-338-2177

THE ACTORS WORKSHOP THEATRE "Praying Small"

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

BERGER PARK CULTURAL CENTER

Computer classes
Adults—beginners/advanced
Thursday nights, call for info:
773-761-5792

Holiday concert
Chicago Studio of Professional
Singing
7pm Dec. 15, donation \$5
6205 N. Sheridan Rd.
312-742-7871

BROADWAY ARMORY

Dinners with Santa
Includes dinner, games, projects,
holiday music, etc.
\$10 per person, 6-9pm Dec. 12
Call for registration

Early childhood recreation class
Call for information
5917 N. Broadway
312-742-7502

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

Winter program registration
Dec. 7 at all parks

EDGEWATER BRANCH LIBRARY

CAPS 24th Dist. Beat #2433
Come meet our beat police.
Wednesday, Dec. 3, 7pm
(1st Wed. of every month)

Internet assistance
Saturday afternoons

Saturday Book Club
11am 1st Sat. of month

Exhibit
Dan Zamudio, Chicago
Photographs

From Dec. 1 thru Jan. 31.
Artist's reception

2pm Dec. 6

HIV awareness program
Presented by Asian Human
Services for African immigrants
11am Dec. 2.

Hands-on storytelling
Singing and drums, family program
African storyteller and artist Uwa

MARTIN D'ARCY MUSEUM OF ART

The Life of Christ Through Art
Guided tour 1-2pm Dec. 6
\$5, free to alumni, students &
members
6225 N. Sheridan Rd.
773-508-2679

NORTH LAKESIDE CULTURAL CENTER

"Land & Lake"
Exhibit of oil paintings by local
artist Alejandro Vazquez Brull.
Thru Dec. 13—Call for times
"Natural Affection"
by Wm. Inge—North Lakeside
Players
9pm Fri./Sat., 2pm Sun
Thru Dec. 21, \$15
6219 N. Sheridan Rd.
773-743-4477

NORTH PARK VILLAGE NATURE CENTER

Winter festival
Winter solstice festival &
concert—live music, ornament
making, feed the animals,
moonlight walk, roasted chestnuts,
shadow play.
6-9pm Dec. 20, Free

Senior woodshop
H building 8am-12:30pm Mon.-
Fri.
Call 773-478-5597 for details.
5801 N. Pulaski
312-744-5472

WARREN PARK

Chocolate house class
Make a chocolate house for the
holidays.
\$18, materials furnished
6:30pm Dec. 17, 3:30 & 6:30pm
Dec. 18
Pre-register by Dec. 2
6601 N. Western
312-742-7888

WHITE CRANE WELLNESS CENTER

Adult day wellness programs for

Part romance, part tragicomedy, a portrait of a bright, successful, charismatic young man who is nearly destroyed by his appetites and addictions.

Thru Dec. 21, \$15
8pm Fri./Sat., 3pm Sun.
1040 W. Bryn Mawr
773-622-1136

MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

MECA board meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 16
7:30pm — Windjammer Room

Thursday afternoon discussion group

No meeting this month

Holiday party

Thursday, Dec. 18
6:00pm — lobby

Hanukkah candle lighting

Friday, Dec. 19
5:30pm — lobby

Dialogue Committee meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 23
7:30pm — Community Room

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

48th Ward food/toy drive



Please donate to our 48th Ward food and toy drive benefiting seniors and children in the 48th Ward. The toys should be new and the food items should preferably be canned. We will also accept cash donations to purchase gift certificates from Jewel and Dominick's.

Drop off goods to the 48th Ward office at 5533 N. Broadway Av. through Dec. 15. Office hours are 9am-5pm Mon-Thu, 9am-1pm Fri.

Source: Ann Felger, 48th Ward, 773-293-8414

Holiday contest canceled

By Jack Winans

The Dialogue regrets that the annual holiday door-decorating contest has been canceled due to lack of interest. However, for those of you who decorate your hallway doors, please note:

Management requests that all decorations be hung with no damage to the unit doors. The cost of repairing nail holes will be passed on to the unit owners. Please hang decorations from the door knocker, the doorknob or from a strap over the top of the door. Decorations may not be placed on the common area hallway floor.

ASCO news

By Sheli Lulkin

Excavation has begun on the SW corner of Thorndale and Sheridan in preparation for the new park. We appreciate the efforts of Ald. Smith and the Chicago Park District in getting this project started so that the park can be used next summer.



This will be a "passive" park. Plans call for beautiful landscaping, seating and hopefully, in future years, a fountain or other water feature. The park was designed with a path on a diagonal to encourage public transportation users to stay on the paths and off the grass. Seating will be of the type that discourages people from sleeping on benches. The design was approved at an ASCO meeting.

Dogs will be allowed on leash only. Tickets will be written for dogs off leash or owners who do not clean up after their pets.

The bus shelter will be moved further south after construction.

The bus shelters at Glenlake (both sides) and at 5455 N. Sheridan are on the list for electrical repair. The shelters at Ridge & Broadway are now lit, so hopefully ours will be next.

The committee for the park at 6151 N. Sheridan has not been convened and will not begin to meet until funding is allocated in the Park District budget.

Please bring food

The Malibu East annual holiday party will be in the lobby at 6:00pm Thursday, Dec. 18.



The two success stories of our annual holiday party are:

1. We get a chance to share the holiday spirit with our neighbors.
2. We get to share our neighbors' culinary skills.

So please bring your special finger foods to the party Dec. 18 to share with your neighbors and friends.

NOTICE

The Dialogue is looking for a few volunteers whose only duties would be to occasionally deliver the Dialogue to a maximum of four floors when one of our permanent delivery staff volunteers is unavailable. Please contact the management office or any member of the Dialogue staff.

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**.

Dialogue reprints

Reprints of Dialogue pages are available in color on photo paper at the price of \$1 per page. Call or e-mail the editor with your requests.



2003-2004 MECA board committee assignments

Special committees

(Membership limited to board members unless otherwise noted)

Admissions

Martina Molins (Chair)
Larry Creter (Vice Chair)
Allan Eckardt
Marcia Fishman
Avany Penaherrera
Neil G. Warner

Communications

Tom Vaughan (Chair)
Neil Warner (Vice Chair)
Carol Beatty
Marcia Fishman

Allan Eckardt
Avany Penaherrera

Finance and Insurance

Tom Vaughan (Chair)
Neil G. Warner (Vice Chair)
Carol Beatty

Jon Heller
Martina Molins
Richard Strauss

Grievances and Appeals (board officers)

Marcel Molins
Richard Strauss
Tom Vaughan
Neil G. Warner
Jon Heller
Marcia Fishman
Larry Creter

Long-Range Planning & Special Projects

Jon Heller (Chair)
Richard Strauss (Vice Chair)
Larry Creter
Allan Eckardt
Marcia Fishman
Tom Vaughan

Employees' Holiday Fund

Neil G. Warner (Chair)
Tom Vaughan (Vice Chair)
Sandy Chaet
Jon Heller

Avany Penaherrera
Richard Strauss

Building Maintenance and Services

Carol Beatty (Chair)

Avany Penaherrera (Vice Chair)
Larry Creter
Allan Eckardt
Jon Heller
Martina Molins

Garage

Martina Molins (Chair)
Richard Strauss (Vice Chair)
Sandy Chaet
Larry Creter
Marcia Fishman
Avany Penaherrera

Security Committee

Larry Creter (Chair)
Sandy Chaet (Vice Chair)
Allan Eckardt
Marcia Fishman
Tom Vaughan
Neil G. Warner

Standing committees

Liaison board members
(Membership open to residents)

Architecture & Aesthetics

Landscaping and Physical Plant

Larry Creter
Marcia Fishman
Richard Strauss

Commercial Unit

Tom Vaughan
Carol Beatty
Sandy Chaet
Marcia Fishman
Avany Penaherrera

Dialogue

Larry Creter
Neil G. Warner

Floor Representatives

Tom Vaughan
Jon Heller

Garage

Martina Molins
Richard Strauss

Legal

Neil G. Warner
Martina Molins

Public and Community Affairs

Sandy Chaet
Larry Creter

Social and Educational

Sandy Chaet
Carol Beatty
Larry Creter
Richard Strauss

Rules and Regulations

Neil G. Warner
Tom Vaughan
Martina Molins

Pet Committee

Larry Creter
Sandy Chaet

Parent

Jon Heller
Sandy Chaet

Sports and Entertainment

Jon Heller
Sandy Chaet
Tom Vaughan
Neil G. Warner

Homeowner's liability insurance

By Jack Winans

The Malibu East board is considering taking action that would require owners to carry homeowner liability insurance in an as yet undetermined amount. New legislation gives condominium boards this legal option.



1. Homeowner liability insurance covers the liability of damage to another unit or to the association when the homeowner is responsible through negligence, neglect or purposeful actions that cause the damage.
2. The damaged party's insurance company will investigate to determine whether the damage was caused due to negligence. If negligence is proved, a claim will be made on the insurance provider of the unit that caused the damage.
3. If no negligence is found, the damaged unit's insurance company will pay for the damage through the property damage section of the unit's policy.

According to insurance carrier representatives, there is no insurance available for unit owners to cover a situation where damage is caused to another unit through no fault of the unit owner.

Liability coverage in most instances can be increased from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 for a small increase in premiums.

Holiday reflections

By Rita Whaley



During this time of the year the subject of holiday stress is constantly mentioned in the media. I have also noticed that this is often a very difficult time for many of my counseling clients. The papers are full of good advice on how to minimize tension, stay less lonely, handle family relationships, manage money, save time, eat better and "survive" these stressful events. Not much that is new can be said on the subject. It occurred to me that we also can reduce stress by emphasizing what we all share and what brings us together as people. Many of the good things in life are free and do not involve expensive gifts or exhausting effort.

Having just moved into this building, my husband and I are struck by the wonderful diversity of our new neighbors. Coming from Europe and having been in India and Japan, we became familiar with so many wonderful holiday customs and traditions. We wondered about all the different festivities taking place in just this one building alone.

We just spent Diwali (the Festival of Light) with Indian friends, who love to come to our house for Christmas. Their boys were so proud when we gave them a little Christmas tree, and they sat by it every night.

We have shared Hanukkah and Christmas with our Jewish friends, and when I lived in Brooklyn many years ago, I was invited to weddings and bar mitzvahs, while the little Hassidic neighbor boys came to eat Christmas cookies in my house. Quite an experience for a young woman who was raised in Germany! I learned something that year about mankind and people's willingness to meet heart to heart.

The Eastern European countries differ in their traditions from their Western neighbors, and America has a whole new set of customs. I remember that in Germany we had no Santa Claus as such, but we waited with bated breath

for the Christ Child to bring our presents.

During Thanksgiving, Ramadan, Hanukkah, Christmas, Diwali and Kwanzaa, to name just a few, what we all share is an aspiration to become better people, and a willingness to be at peace with each other. Maybe in this coming year, all of us in this building can start that process, by sharing our different customs and traditions with our neighbors, and getting to know one another.

Happy holidays to a wonderful new community!

Restaurants open Christmas Day

by Betty Mayian

Andies, Greek/Mediterranean
5253 North Clark,
773/784-8616

The Angus, prime steaks, seafood
7555 North Western Ave.
773/262-8844 / 773/262-3061
fax: 773/262-2444

Carson's Ribs, Barbeque ribs
5970 North Ridge, 773/271-4000

Deluxe Diner, 24/365 diner
6349 North Clark St., 773/743-8244

Ethiopian Diamond, African
6120 North Broadway, 773/338-6100

Fireside Pub, American
5739 North Ravenswood
773/878-5942, fax: 773/878-7615

Lily of Thai, Thai
5951 North Broadway, 773/8788-1155

Mei Shung, Chinese & Taiwanese
5511 North Broadway, 773/728-5778
fax: 773/728-6962

Reza's, Persian
5255 North Clark St., 773/561-1898
fax: 773/561-9896

Stacks and Steaks,
24/365 diner
6349 North Clark, 773/743-8244

Standees,
24/365 diner
1133 West Granville, 773/743-5013



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.



ASCO report

By Sandy Chaet

At the last ASCO board meeting, the following items were discussed and motions made to support Alderman Smith on these issues:

1. To support the retention of two left lanes from Broadway to eastbound Hollywood.
2. To support the installation of traffic lights on the corner of Glenlake/Broadway.
3. To support a longer green light on Granville at the corner of Broadway (east/west) and to request an intersection design study.
4. To retain Thorndale as a two-way street between Sheridan and Broadway with no parking between Kenmore and Sheridan, as well as not to allow any traffic calming devices (i. e. speed bumps/traffic circles).

Other issues discussed:

1. To oppose the retrofitting of multi-story residential buildings with sprinkler systems. We feel this is an individual building decision.
2. To not allow city inspectors to enter private garages (including condo garages) for the purpose of ticketing cars without city stickers.
3. To send letters to Mayor Daley and Frank Krusei, President of CTA, asking them not to cut any current service on the 147 bus line including and especially the new Sunday and early morning/late night schedules.
4. Holiday planting scheduled for the week of Nov. 24 in all of the ASCO planters on Sheridan Road.
5. The Park at Thorndale/Sheridan was started. Completion in May/June 2004.

How to pet-proof your home for the holidays

The bright colors and intoxicating scents of the holiday season are enough to transform any moping mutt or cranky cat from melancholy to downright jolly.



Unfortunately, many of the delights and decorations of the holidays pose significant health risks to your companion animals.

As our schedules and environments change during the holidays, many companion animals react with curiosity by exploring new objects with their mouths. PETCO offers the following safety tips on keeping pets safe and healthy for many holidays to come.

Christmas Trees

Pine needles can get lodged in an animal's esophagus, making it painfully prickly for your pet to swallow. Even drinking the water from the Christmas tree base is enough to cause diarrhea, mouth sores, vomiting and loss of appetite. Cover your tree stand tightly with skirting and distract your companion animal from tree temptations with holiday toys and treats.

Deck the Halls

During the holidays, a bunch of fresh mistletoe may be a symbol of love, but to your curious cat or canine, temptingly red berries look more like a sweet treat. Eating the leaves and berries could cause a drop in blood pressure. Ivy can cause diarrhea, convulsions, and in some cases even death when eaten in large quantities. Holly and poinsettias are other poisonous plants to keep away from inquisitive companion animals.

Tinsel and Lights

A flickering flame and shiny decorations intrigue companion animals. When lighting the menorah, advent wreath or decorative candles, keep pets in another room where paws and claws can't reach them. With electrical lights, remember to tape exposed electrical

cords to walls or floor to ensure no chewing or tripping. Tinsel and gift-wrap may look like fun toys but they can cause choking, upset stomach or even more serious problems.

Visions of Sugar Plums

Dogs may love to sniff your holiday goodies but theobromine, an active ingredient found in chocolate, could have a highly toxic effect. Avoid offering chocolate as a treat. If your dog develops a sweet tooth and discovers an improperly stored stash, it could lead to a tragedy. Keep dogs' jaws busy with holiday rawhide candy canes and oversized bones such as those found at PETCO. If he or she shows signs of illness such as vomiting, loss of appetite, or excessive water intake, contact your veterinarian immediately. Proper nutrition and plenty of fresh, unfrozen water are essential to your companion animal's winter health.

Let It Snow



Pets, especially very young and older animals, can suffer stress, frostbite and hypothermia when their body temperature drops just a few degrees below normal. The tips of the ears, feet and tail are common areas to be affected. Watch for the formation of ice balls between your companion animal's toes and regularly trim the long hair between the footpads to avoid frostbitten feet. If you suspect frostbite, do not rub the area but simply apply warm, moist packs and contact your veterinarian.

Antifreeze Alert

Antifreeze contains ethylene glycol, which causes rapid and permanent kidney damage to your companion animal if it ingests even a very small amount. It takes only 6 milliliters of antifreeze to kill an average-sized cat. A cat can walk through an antifreeze puddle and ingest it while cleaning its paws. For a dog, it takes only 60 milliliters of antifreeze to kill a 30-pound pup. A dog could ingest this much with a few laps out of an open container or from a puddle on the garage floor.

Source: petco.com

MECA garage rates

Effective Jan. 1, 2004

New monthly rates

1 st motorcycle	\$43
1 st single self-parking	105
1 st tandem parking	96
1 st valet parking	86

Monthly surcharges

Preferred	\$30
2 nd vehicle	25
3 rd vehicle	30
4 th vehicle	80

Guest parking rates

Up to 1 hour	\$2
1 to 2 hours	3
2 to 4 hours	6
4 to 6 hours	8
6 to 12 hours	12
12 to 24 hours	15
Weekly	50

Parking coupons

\$30 value for	\$25
\$50 value for	\$45
\$60 value for	\$50

Available in MECA office in \$1, \$2 and \$5 denominations.

NOTICE: There are no new third or fourth vehicles permitted if there is a waiting list for second vehicles. See our garage manager to sign up or to check the status of the waiting list or for any questions on the garage rates.

Don't forget, you must register your guests for garage parking privileges.

Reminder

With the coming of winter weather, remember that it is against MECA rules to store anything in the hallway floors, including:

Carpets, boots, shoes, wet clothing, seasonal statues.





Dear Etta Kitt,

I am really thankful that our building provides both shopping and luggage carts. When I use them, I always return them immediately for use by other residents. Unfortunately, I notice that others are not quite so considerate, and I often see carts standing abandoned in hallways and occasionally taking a vacation trip in the elevators traveling up and down until someone



ejects them. Is there some way that we can make our residents more liable for the return of these carts?

A concerned resident



Dear Concerned,

Yes, it would be great if all of our carts had license plates and we could treat them like rental cars. Unfortunately, the paperwork involved, and the extra responsibility placed on our already busy doormen, would change a unique amenity into an irritating annoyance.

Some things can be regulated to the point of absurdity and then become more trouble than they are worth. This is one of those many things where we have to depend on the character and trustworthiness of our neighbors. We hope that, under these circumstances, our selection of Malibu East for our home was the correct choice.

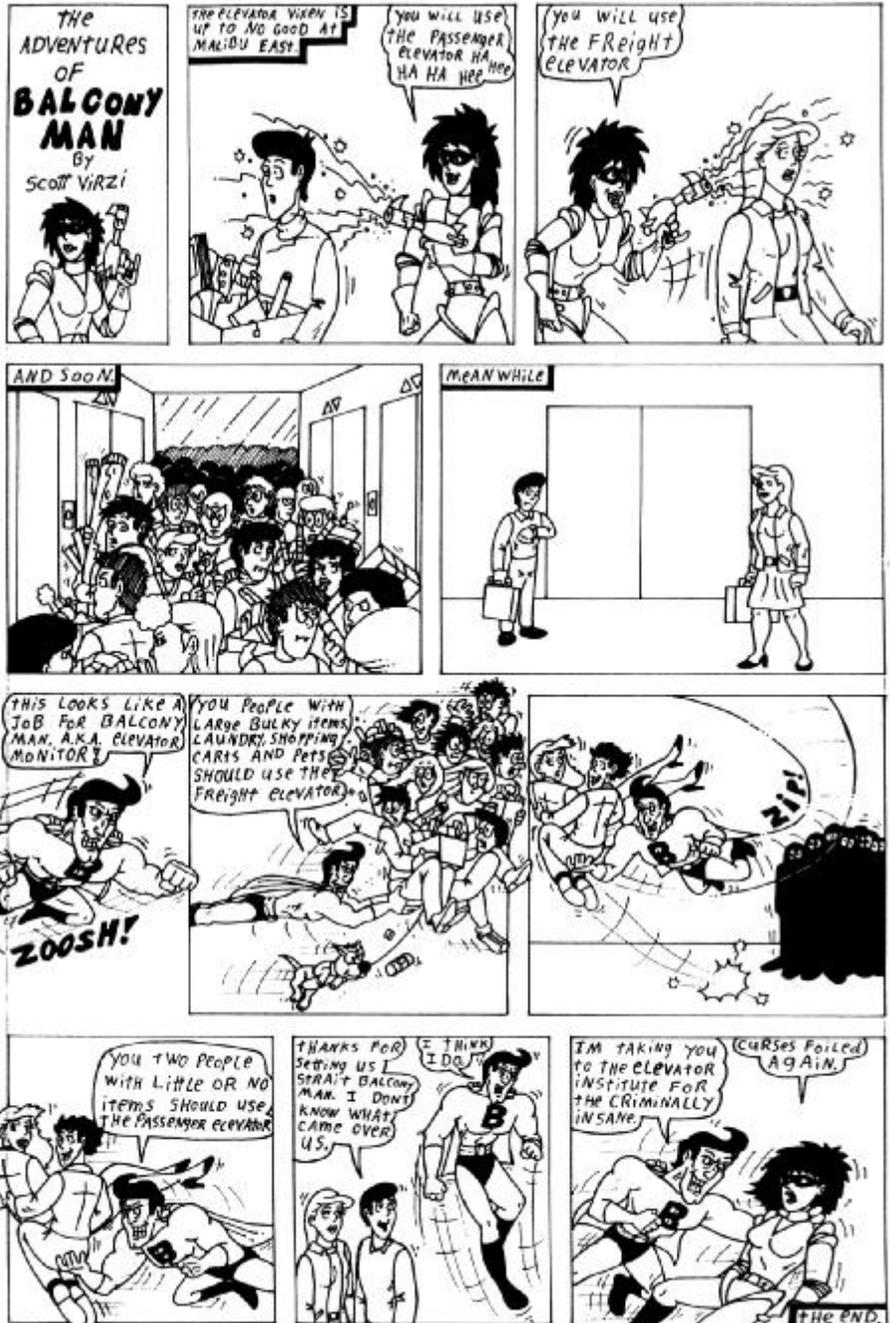
'Town Crier' announcements by Joan Burke



We have no new residents this month.

If you have information concerning talented or famous MECA residents, please contact the Dialogue. If you would like to bring information to the Dialogue in person, we have an open forum before our third Thursday of the month meetings at 7:30pm in the Community Room. If you have writing or photographic talents, contact a Dialogue staff member for details on membership on our committee. Check the Community Calendar for updates on meeting dates.

Balcony Man by Scott Virzi



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Wednesday	9:00-7:00	CAPTAIN'S WALK
Thursday	9:30-6:00	CHICAGO, IL 60660
Friday	9:00-7:00	
Saturday	8:00-5:00	TELEPHONE: (773) 561-6595
Sunday	by appointment only	(773) 561-6596

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The Dialogue

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

Articles written by and opinions of the MECA *Dialogue* staff and contributors are 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 succinct 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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