

Malibu East Dialogue

March 2007

Your Communication and Information Resource

The ices of March — weather, bills, construction



Resident Joe LeSanche braved the Feb. 13 winter storm to take these pictures. L to R: Thorndale park bus stop, MECA west driveway. Contact the editor for more dramatic pictures that Joe took of our streets and Osterman Beach park.

Winter woes

By Jack Winans

February was the harbinger of stress for Malibu East residents and our staff of dedicated employees who strived to alleviate that stress and keep the building running as smoothly as possible under the circumstances.



The worst winter storm (*see pictures above*) kept our employees outside working in gale conditions in order to maintain a clear and safe entrance for autos and pedestrians.

Our garage manager, Shade Little, although handicapped with the unfortunate loss of three employees, two through sickness and one death, managed a miracle and continued to keep residents' cars available while already under the pressure of all the additional cars assigned to valet parking and a reduction in parking spaces due to the garage construction.

Our Captain's Walk mall lobby has

been a "freeze" zone as construction crews removed ceiling tiles to put in support columns and winter winds managed to insert themselves in spite of our new "double entry."

Several residents called this editor to share their dismay over the new electrical rates and worried that the current bitter cold would bring even higher expenses. Some said they were taking advantage of an electronic thermostat to reduce heat at night and while gone to work during the day.

The cold snap, followed by a sudden melt, left everyone's car with a coating of gray salt and dirt. The Farmer's Almanac says, "March should be noted for severe winter weather in the Heartland. Because of the direct connection between health and weather; residents throughout the country should guard against the see-saw radical temperature drops from above normal to below normal temperatures and back to above normal temperatures."

Sounds like a normal Chicago winter!

Our condolences to the family and friends of Victor Oluwole of Standard Parking

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MECA board meeting notes

by Elaine Winans

MECA board meeting Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2007

Attendance: 9 board members, 2 management representatives and 9 residents
Not present: Sandy Chaet, Allan Eckardt, Barbara Murphy

OPEN FORUM

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) When will the garage work be done?
June. We've divided it into north and south portions; this added time to it.
- 2) Could we have a window put in the first set of east doors to the Captain's Walk? **It depends on the requirements for this particular fire door.**
- 3) Where should guests park during nights or weekends as they can park here only during the day due to construction? **Contact the garages at Malibu and East Point for available space.**
- 4) Do we have a hallway-vacuuming schedule? **Once a week. Regular broom-and-sweep and spot cleanup is nightly.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Neil Warner

Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves
— \$3,416,359.03

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Social and Educational**
Leon LeRoy
(See Community Calendar, pg. 4.)
- 2) **Architecture & Aesthetics**
Carol Beatty
When all survey forms are in, we will prepare a report.
- 3) **Garage**
Martina Molins
Some confusion with those supposedly parking at 6030 N. Sheridan.
Standard Parking report
Shade Little, Mgr.
Claims
Approved: 0

Denied: 0
Pending: 1
Total: 1

Waiting lists

Single self-park: 26
Tandem self-park: 0
Second car: 0

Monthly parkers

Single: 140
Tandem: 47
Valet: 322
Preferred: 2
Motorcycle: 4
Engineer: 1
Total: 516

New monthlies: 4
Cancellations: 7
Upgrades: 0

4) Sports and Entertainment

Neil Warner
(See Community Calendar, pg. 4.)
One treadmill is not working properly.

5) Communications

Tom Vaughan
Dialogue still running in the black.

6) TV

Tom Vaughan
Committee will meet within 30 days.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Items requiring immediate board action

- 1) **Indemnification and hold-harmless agreement 6030 Sheridan Condominium**
This agreement, when approved, will allow our residents who are parking at 6030 to enter and exit through the condominium lobby.
- 2) **Malibu garage**
A letter of thanks to the Malibu Condominium Association for their gracious handling of our request for parking in their garage.

Items requiring future board action

- 1) **SNJ Home Improvement final payment**
Tabled
- 2) **Vortex Carpeting final payment**
Tabled

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.

- 3) **H.H. Angus Elevator Consultants invoice payment**
Not satisfied with their report.
- 4) **USA Wireless character generator**
Still not operational.
- 5) **Proposal for handling collections of past-due assessments**
Further discussion proposed.
- 6) **Electrical survey**
A Thermoscan survey has been prepared. Shows where excessive heat is being generated in the building's electrical service rooms and heavy electrical equipment. The report helps in finding potential electrical problems and prioritizing repairs.

Items not requiring board action

- 1) **Garage construction project**
A chart in the lobby details project progress. The project is on schedule.
- 2) **Unit sales**

36A	\$415,000 (pending)
37L	\$174,000 (pending)
24C	\$285,000 (pending)
- 3) **Lobby circulation/handicapped ramp access project**
There was a problem with the design, manufacture and/or installation of the vestibule door. It will be corrected. The garage construction and the Sheridan Road north window wall are contributing to the unusual temporary cold in the main lobby and the Captain's Walk mall lobby.
- 4) **Critical & ongoing façade inspection**
Nothing ongoing at present.
- 5) **North Sheridan Road door update**
The door has been re-engineered, and work will start shortly.
- 6) **Dialogue project**
The Dialogue asked for and received cooperation from the board on the committee project. (See pg. 6.)
- 7) **Receiving Room**
Tabled to closed session.

The meeting ended at 10pm and went into closed session.



Management report

by Chris Chiodo, MECA Manager

Assessments: Assessments are due by the first of each month. A late charge will be assessed for any delinquent account at the close of business on the 15th of each month.

Please send remittance to:

Malibu East Condo Assoc.
% Sudler – 80
8401 Innovation Way
Chicago, IL 60682-8401

The management office will not accept assessment checks.

Construction in units: As of late, many units that are remodeling their units have not been following the Rules & Regulations pertaining to “Construction Activity” within your unit. Please let me reiterate some important rules that must be followed: (1) Construction can only be conducted between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. (2) Construction work must comply with city codes, and the unit owner must obtain all permits required. Also, all work, whether electrical, plumbing or otherwise, must be performed by licensed, bonded and insured contractors. (3) Unit owner shall notify the management office in writing at least 10 days in advance of any construction activity. (4) Any kind of debris must be taken out of the building. You cannot use the bulk rooms or dumpsters to discard any material. Any failure to comply will result in a fine and the automatic shut-down of your project.

Garage construction project: As of

Feb. 26, the project is on schedule. Please look for a posting in the lobby that will show the ongoing status.

Relocation of cars to Malibu (6007): Residents who have to relocate their cars to Malibu Condominium (6007) during the garage construction project can obtain a security access key from the Malibu East Management Office, for the use of the Captain’s Walk elevator so you will no longer have to go outside to get to Malibu. If you would like to obtain a key, please bring down a check deposit in the amount of \$100, made payable to the Malibu Condominium.

Relocation of cars to 6030: We are working with their association to grant our temporary parkers access to their garage through their lobby. We feel this will be much safer for everyone involved. Management will notify you if this permission is granted.

Important garage information: Any resident who is still parking in Malibu East’s garage became a valet parker as of Feb. 1, 2007. Also, residents will not have access to any part of the garage. This means if you need to retrieve something from your car, you will have to go to the garage lobby and request that they bring your car down for you. (Your security access key has been reprogrammed; it will not work on the 2nd & 3rd floors of the garage.) If a resident is caught in any area of the garage during the project, you will be fined \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second offense and,

for a third offense, \$300 and forfeiture of your parking privileges for one year. This must be enforced for your safety and well-being.

Sheridan Road door: Repairs began a week ago and had to be stopped for unforeseen reasons. We are confident that they will resume within the next 5-10 days.

Captain’s Walk door (main entrance): The center doors of the new entrance have been temporarily closed for safety reasons, with repairs scheduled to start within the next two weeks. However, the handicapped-accessible door is still available to use.

Chute & bulk garbage rooms: All rubbish should be wrapped securely and discarded carefully to avoid spillage on the floor, or in the rubbish chute. Items such as disposable vacuum cleaner bags, pet litter and machine-shredded paper should be securely wrapped and placed in the bulk garbage room.

Returning keys after use: Many residents are forgetting to return the keys after use of the Fitness Center, Storage Locker Room, Teen Room, Children’s Playroom, etc. Please note that this is very inconsiderate to the rest of the residents in the building. The door staff has been warned that they have to do a better job of keeping track of these keys. If some residents continue to fail to comply, we may have to consider collecting an identification card and keeping it until the signed-out key has been returned.

E-mail: You may contact the management office or the board of directors at: malibueast@awb.us

'Town Crier' announcements by Rodica Ilc



We welcome all new residents to our building, including:

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

Top 10 No. 5

By Jack Winans

An article by Mark Pearlstein concerning 10 facts about condominium ownership was reprinted in the October `06 Dialogue. The Dialogue editor is commenting on those 10 facts and urges condominium owners to contribute their personal comments.

No. 5. You are buying into a system where the rules can be changed by an amendment or board regulation. These changes include leasing and pets.

Editorial comment:

If you have bought one or more units as an investment and intend to lease the unit, you have to understand that you are the owner of the unit and do not have complete control over many aspects of the condominium. “Stuff” happens and other unit owners and the board may — for the greater good — make changes that will affect your leasing terms and profits. If you have or contemplate getting a pet, the rules in place and future changes will greatly impact the interaction of your pet and other residents and your responsibilities.

Community Calendar

by Miriam Romain



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

BERGER PARK

CULTURAL CENTER

Computer class

For seniors (60 & over)
Fridays, 2-4pm FREE
6205 N. Sheridan Rd.
773-761-0376

EDGEWATER

BRANCH LIBRARY

CAPS 24th Dist. Beat #2433
Come meet our beat police.
Wednesday, Mar. 7, 7pm

Saturday Book Club

11am 1st Sat. of month
1210 W. Elmdale
312-744-0718

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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\$26, 8pm Sat.
6912 N. Glenwood
773-761-4477

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Call for times, \$15
6157 N. Clark
773-338-2177

THE ACTORS WORKSHOP

THEATRE

"Otherwise Engaged"

Call for times, \$25
1044 W. Bryn Mawr
773-728-7529

MECA EVENTS/ MEETINGS

**New yoga class begins,
cost TBD**

Monday, March 5
7 p.m. — Windjammer
Room

Steppers' dance class

Saturday, March 10, \$10

5 p.m. — Teen Room

Thursday afternoon

discussion group

Thursday, Mar. 15
(every 3rd Thurs. of month)

2:00pm — Community

Room **Dialogue Committee meeting**

Tuesday, Mar. 20

7:30pm — Community Room

MECA board meeting

Tuesday, Mar. 27

7:30pm — Windjammer Room

Continental brunch

Sunday, May 20

Windjammer Room

White Elephant Sale

Saturday, June 23 (*tentative*)

11am-3pm — Captain's Walk

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

MARCH HOLIDAYS

Greek-American Heritage Month

Irish-American Heritage Month

March 2

World Day of Prayer

March 3

Buddhist: Magha Puja Day/Sangha Day

March 4

Jewish: Purim

Hindu and Sikh: Holi

March 17

Christian: St. Patrick's Day

March 19

Hindu: Hindi New Year

March 21

*Pagan/Wiccan and Heathen: Spring
Equinox/Ostara*

Zoroastrian: Norooz

Baha'i: Nau-Roz (Naw-Ruz)

March 26

Zoroastrian: Khordad Sal

March 31

Muslim: Mawlid an Nabi - Muslim



Rep. Osterman and son Jack, who
drew the winners for the door prizes.

Senior Fair not 'fair'

By Jack Winans

Illinois State Rep. Harry Osterman held his annual Senior Citizen Health Fair amidst the worst storm of the year. Harry said, "Never again! One of my New Year's resolutions is to move the Senior Fair to September. Seven years in a row of good weather for Valentine's Day and now this!"

Chicago's "finest" were on hand with two snowplows, a front loader, a snow blower and several hardworking Streets and Sanitation people clearing Broadway, the sidewalks and the parking lot.

The weather kept away some of the planned speakers, but popular Steven Solomon was on hand to provide keyboard music, and several state, county and city representatives spoke from the rostrum and mixed with the crowd.

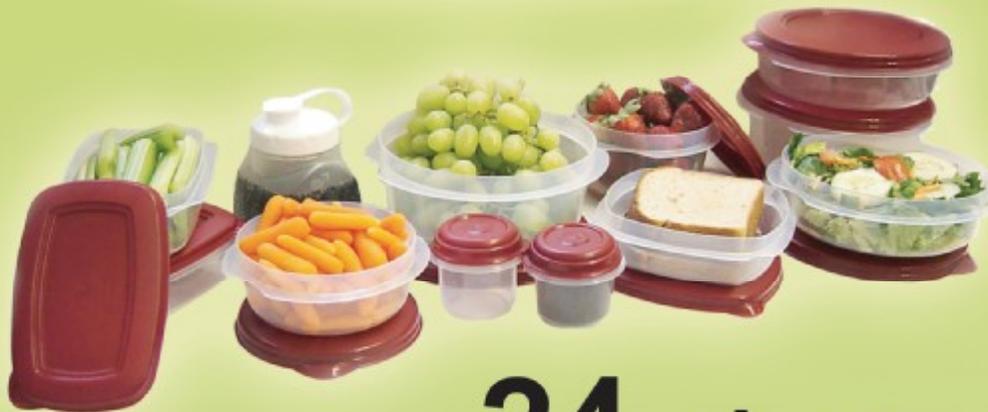
The EHS (Edgewater Historical Society) continuously showed a 20-minute DVD movie featuring the history of Edgewater. (*For sale at their table.*)

Surprisingly many seniors (about 150) braved the storm and almost all of the vendors showed up with their wares and giveaways. Dozens of lucky seniors (including this writer) walked away with a great gift from the door-prize drawing and everyone got a goody bag. Hot coffee, cinnamon rolls and juice were appreciated by all the sturdy seniors after walking the "line" of vendors and picking up free pens and other gifts and getting a blood pressure test.

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Bryn Mawr 'bricolage' mural plans unveiled

By Tracy Poyser

The Bryn Mawr underpass under Lake Shore Drive will be a lot more colorful by the end of summer, with a 175-foot-long and 11-foot-high "bricolage" mosaic mural gracing its north wall. John Pounds, executive director of the Chicago Public Art Group (www.cpag.net), the nation's oldest community public art organization, together with Ernie Constantino from 48th Ald. Mary Ann Smith's office, recently invited community members to meet mosaic artist/educator Tracy Van Buinen at St. Andrews' Church to comment on the proposed design and to learn how local groups and individuals can participate in this exciting project. The theme is "All about Edgewater," with whimsical components representing our lakefront, landmarks, people, animals and the joy of living here. Fundraising is currently under way to cover the total anticipated project cost of \$50,000, with only \$20,000 still to be raised as of Jan. 23.

"Bri-co-lage" loosely means "something made of whatever materials happen to be available" — and that's where a lot of the fun comes in. For an example, check out Van Duinen's work on the entrance wall of the Alternative Youth Center on the west side of Sheridan Road just south of Lawrence. He created it with 20 kids from the center working 3½ hours a day for about six weeks.

Van Duinen and the Chicago Public Art Group are planning a series of Scheduled task-specific community workshops before the end of May, with actual installation anticipated about mid-August 2007. Neighbors and community groups will be invited to learn how to help collect, smash, paint, sculpt and finally install tiles, chinaware, mirror pieces, small stones and anything else that will help create a pattern and make this work of art a unique neighborhood collaboration.

A number of Edgewater condo associations, including MECA, would like to get their residents involved. To get involved along with Betty Mayian and me, contact Ernie Constantino, Ald. Smith's aide, at 773-293-8411 or ernie@masmith48.org.



Smith campaign social

By Jack Winans

At a social hosted by Sandy Chaet and Sen. Ronen in the Windjammer Room Jan. 28, 48th Ward Ald. Mary Ann Smith announced her run for re-election. Present to speak in her behalf were 7th Dist. state Sen. Arthur Berman (Ret.) and current Sen. Carol Ronen. Also present was Sheli Lulkin, President of ASCO (Association of Sheridan Road Condo/Co-op Owners), Malibu East President Marcel Molins, members of Ald. Smith's re-election campaign and around 50 well-wishers and Smith supporters.

After a gracious introduction by Sen. Ronen, Ald. Smith outlined her successes in improving the quality of life in Edgewater and her hopes and plans for future progress in neighborhood educational resources, our public library, park expansions and street and sidewalk safety.



ASCO general meeting

By Sandy Chaet

Do you know when to call 311 or 911, and the difference between them? What are the three priorities used when a person calls 911? How do you program your cell phone to handle an emergency?

On Tuesday, Mar. 13 at 7pm at the Malibu Condominium (6007 N. Sheridan Road), there will be an open general meeting. The program will consist of a short business meeting, which will include ASCO (Association of Sheridan Condo/Co-op Owners) elections. After that, William Townsell, from the CAPS Implementation Office and Chicago Police Department, will present a program called "High-rise Safe & Sound." There will be speakers on the difference between 311 and 911, what is CAPS, and self-defense.

MECA committees

By Jack Winans, Editor

At the February 20 monthly Dialogue staff meeting, we discussed a new project. We believe it would be in the best interest of the board of directors, the management staff and the owners and residents of Malibu East to have the opportunity to become better-informed on the function, objectives and procedures of our Malibu East committees.

We will start the project with articles based on the standing committees as they accept non-board member residents and give them the opportunity to serve the association.

We invite residents to contact the Dialogue with requests for articles on specific committees.

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Friday	9:00-7:00	
Saturday	8:00-5:00	TELEPHONE: (773) 561-6595
Sunday	by appointment only	(773) 561-6596

CLOSED MONDAY

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 you to "get your things appraised"?

I can help you. I am a certified appraiser
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 have an item or roomful that you want
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Elevator birds

By Jack Winans

There are many species that live in our building. Their habitat requires only an elevator.

- **The Bower** — He always bows and gestures everyone to enter first; then he enters last and blocks the door for everyone, because this “gentleman” is always the last one off. This bird lives in the highest branches.


- **The Percher** — This bird covers the button board and you can't get to it without ruffling his feathers.


- **The Digit** — This bird can be recognized by the oversized finger that pecks at the “close door” button.


- **The Swinger** — Can take up the space of two or more birds. Two varieties, one has a large backpack, the other a large briefcase or purse that always sticks out of the rear of the bird. Note: Can be dangerous when entering and leaving — back away when it spins and turns.


- **The Blocker** — Always found in front of the elevator when it stops; only moves out of the way when awakened out of its stupor.


- **The Audible** — Has earphones permanently stuck in ears. Always surrounded with audible music.



- **The Yeller** — Similar to the Audible, but has cell phone stuck in ear, which he yells into. Grew up on tin-can phones.


- **The Twitcher** — Constantly taps a rhythm with nails or toes; some varieties known to have “twitchy” eyes.


- **The Mouth** — Will talk to anyone, never stops, no off-switch, and volume is stuck on high.


- **The Crumbler** — Enters with candy bar or other food; favorite food is the crumbly muffin. Known to leave a wide trail


- **The Dripper** — Cannot exist without fluids. Many varieties. Early birds carry coffee, most common carries fancy water.


- **The Reader** — Cannot wait to get to nest to open mail. Most aggressive variety will open a newspaper in a filled elevator car.



Which bird are you? None, we hope!



Argyle Street Dragon Dancers perform despite freezing temperature.



The Granville groundbreaking ceremony Left to right: Tom Platt, President of Platt Construction; 49th Ward Ald. Joe Moore; Bill Platt, President of Access Group, the developer of The Granville project.

Granville project

By Jack Winans

Bitter cold didn't keep away neighborhood activists who have been anxiously awaiting the delayed start of construction of The Granville, an 11-story multi-use building on the NE corner of Granville and Broadway. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held at dusk Jan. 31; those attending were invited later to the sales center located at 6238 North Broadway for refreshments.

This project, the first major construction in Edgewater in years, will have 160 condominiums ranging from \$245,000 to \$405,000 (70% already sold) and 30,000 square feet of retail space, 50% to be taken by a Staples to be opened in 2008.

Argyle Street New Years

By Beth Robinson

Spectators gathered along Argyle Street on Feb. 18, to watch the parade welcoming in the Chinese New Year. A dancing dragon, floats with lions symbolizing good luck, and marchers holding red banners paraded down the street, accompanied by drum beats and the staccato of celebratory firecrackers. The sun shown brightly and the sky was bright blue but all present, including several Malibu East residents, were bundled up to keep warm in the cold winter air. Feb. 18 marked the beginning of Lunar Year 4705, the year of the Boar.

Reach 500 units here plus 50 condominium offices!

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(as listing agent)... 6 B

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The Morgan at Loyola Station Building

By *Betty Mayian*

Some good retail news! Morgan@LoyolaStation is a Loyola planned development on Loyola's property across from the Granada at 6474 N. Sheridan. McCaffrey Interests and Antunovich Associates have been given a 75-year lease for that land and the parking lot north of Arthur Street. A beautiful design has been created by these architects who rehabbed the historic Reliance Building downtown, called the Hotel Burnham. Retail will occupy the ground floor, with seven stories of rental property above. The parking garage on Arthur will be partially hidden by townhomes to mimic the residential neighborhood to the west. 40th Ward Ald. Patrick O'Connor said he is committed to retail in the area of Edgewater and Rogers Park. The potential



The Morgan at Loyola artists' rendering.

problems caused of the CTA Loyola line, automobile traffic, and pedestrian traffic have not yet been addressed. The audience was, in general, very pleased with this addition to its neighborhood. Removing the eyesore that Loyola let sit there is one reason, but the promise of excellent retail stores coming is a big plus and will help with neighborhood foot traffic. McCaffrey Interests has worked with some of the major retailers and promised to bring well-known names to the area. The townhomes will be set aside for Loyola faculty and staff.

Malibu East Condominium

6033 N. Sheridan Road
Chicago IL 60660-3033
773-271-1732

Marcel Molins, MECA President
Chris Chiodo, Association Manager
Tom Vaughan, Chairman of
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The Dialogue

The Malibu East Condominium (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 MECA or its Board of Directors and management.

Letters to the MECA *Dialogue* Committee are encouraged. Its staff reserves the right to edit those letters which it sees fit to print and to print only those with constructive content. Letters to the *Dialogue* Committee may be left at the management office.

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