

Malibu East Dialogue

April 2006

Your Communication and Information Resource

Man of many talents — jazz musician, artist

And the beat goes on...

By Miriam Romain

To us, he's Gilbert — the guy who opens the door for us during the day when we're coming or going from the elevators.



He lets our guests upstairs. He gets us keys to get into our storage lockers or to get carts so we can unload our cars. But Gilbert Richardson is more than our doorman. Gilbert is an accomplished musician.

Gilbert has been working as the daytime doorman at Malibu East about seven years. Prior to that he worked in construction and prior to his construction jobs, he was a full-time musician. Gilbert is a trumpet player. For close to 20 years, Gilbert toured Europe, the Caribbean and across the United States. He played with such groups as the Ch-Lites, Temptations, O'Jays, Delfonics and Staple Singers.

"Music, it's more than a hobby to me. It's more a profession to me," he says. "For about 20 years I played trumpet 24/7. I learned to play in high school and had a couple of years of college. I should have kept going. I stopped going to college and was a musician traveling the road, the limelight and all that kind of stuff. I got to see a lot of things and it was fun."

While Gilbert played a lot of Top 40 work, much of it rhythm and blues, he also played jazz and blues. He has many fond memories of those days when music was his way of life. He was part of an opening act for James Brown, and he got to meet Dizzy Gillespie at a small New York club.

Gilbert is a jazz fan, but it was R&B (rhythm and blues) that brought in the money.

"I'm a bigger jazz fan than R&B. It was good because you got paid to do the show. You'd get a few jazz gigs, but not like you would get with Top 40," he says.

Gilbert still plays locally, writes music and works with new local rock bands. One band he is hopeful will land a recording contract sometime soon.

Thinking back on his touring days, which he enjoyed very much, he says he preferred the smaller clubs to the larger venues, calling them more intimate.

Gilbert was born in Memphis, but his family moved to Chicago when he was in grammar school. He grew up on the West Side of the city. Today, he and his wife live on the North Side, where they have lived for close to 20 years.

Aside from being our trusted doorman and an accomplished musician, Gilbert also enjoys graphic arts. He enjoys writing comics for children; the themes center around everyday life.

As for being part of the Malibu East family, Gilbert says he really enjoys his position. He enjoys the fact that he knows many residents on a first-name basis.

"It takes a certain state of mind to be a doorman. You have to read people. You have to know how to speak to people. You have to know when to react and when not to react," he states. "It's an interesting job and if you like working with the public, you'll do well."



NOTICE:

Laundry Room will close for 9 days for remodeling 7:30am April 4 until late April 12

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Our condolences to the family and friends of Carole Dolan

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, Mar. 27, 2007

Attendance: 11 board members, 2 management representatives and 10 residents
Not present: Marcel Molins
Presiding: Vice President Richard Strauss

OPEN FORUM 1

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) Doorknobs missing on bulk room on certain floors. Will they be replaced? **Painters removed and lost several. They will be replaced.**
- 2) Is there a plan to remodel the elevators? **Possibly in the future, not in the current budget.**
- 3) Report of a dangerous dog out of owner's control. Three residents have turned in written complaints. **The board will investigate.**
- 4) 4) Will the prices go up for the new laundry room machines? **No. Residents can look in the Yellow Pages for nearby laundromats to use during remodeling of the laundry room.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Neil Warner

Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves
— \$3,543,152.21.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Floor Representatives**
Barbara Murphy
A grocery cart is still being seen in the laundry room. A drain pipe needs to be flushed in the laundry room.
- 2) **Security**
Sandy Chaet
A city bulletin concerning emergency situations will be passed out to all residents.
- 3) **Social and Educational**
Sandy Chaet
Planning on a White Elephant sale in Captain's Walk if work has progressed enough.
- 4) **Commercial Property**

Tom Vaughan/Richard Strauss

Will be asking for money to relocate the reception area of Dr. Bastani's office during construction work.

5) **Architecture & Aesthetics**

Carol Beatty

Will see if the former hallway ash-trays can be sold for scrap.

6) **ASCO report**

Sandy Chaet

The city requirement for carbon monoxide detectors in every residential unit has been nullified for our all-electric building.

Review of pending Illinois legislation. (See page 8.)

Review of postcard to Mayor Daley asking to delay El work until a better plan for bus service is in effect.

Report on City Hall hearing on electric rate increases.

ASCO would like to have access to residential electric bills comparing this year to last year.

ASCO, in its efforts to lower electrical bills, is asking residents to bring 2006 and 2007 same-month bills to the management office for comparison.

7) **Garage**

Martina Molins

Standard Parking report

Shade Little, Mgr.

Claims

Approved: 2

Denied: 0

Pending: 4

Total: 6

Waiting lists

Single self-park: 26

Tandem self-park: 0

Second car: 0

Monthly parkers

Single: 140

Tandem: 47

Valet: 318

Preferred: 2

Motorcycle: 4

Engineer: 1

Total: 512

New monthlies: 2

Cancellations: 6

Upgrades 0

8) **Sports and Entertainment**

Neil Warner

Two step-dance classes have been held; next class is April 14.

9) **Communications**

Tom Vaughan

Dialogue continues in the black.

10) **TV**

Tom Vaughan

Trying to arrange a meeting.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Items requiring immediate board action

1) **Insurance renewal**

Out to market for bids and received two proposals. An insurance package through Sudler was approved.

2) **Hallway remodeling project survey results**

21 items noted, mostly carpet spotting or water heater doors needing attention. Some said halls were too dark, some too bright. Some who said brown was wrong shade, some said it was good. Many conflicting opinions in the survey. 390 units did not respond.

3) **SNJ Home Improvement final payment**

Final payment deferred until management, with the board's assistance, prepares a final punch list. A partial progress payment was approved.

4) **Vortex Carpeting final payment**

Same as above.

5) **H.H. Angus Elevator Consultants invoice payment**

The consultants' report is unsatisfactory; payment not approved.

6) **Proposals replace/repair conduit and wiring in parking deck**

Wiring exposed during garage construction. Repair work approved.

- 7) **Laundry room folding tables color decision**
Champagne papyrus was chosen.
- 8) **Reaction to pending legislation**
(See page 8.)
The board is against SB0196/ HB1071, HB2042 and HB3461. Motion passed unanimously opposing these three and a letter will be sent to Illinois Rep. Harry Osterman and Illinois Sen. Carol Ronen expressing the board's disapproval.
The board approved HB0759, and Sandy Chaet was advised to inform ASCO.
- 9) **9) Cart room carpeting**
New carpeting approved.

Items requiring future board action

- 1) **Proposals for new treadmill for Fitness Center**
The Sports Committee will make recommendations.
- 2) **Proposals for new preventive maintenance contract for Fitness Center**
Sports Committee working on preparing details for a maintenance program.

Items not requiring board action

- 1) **Garage construction project**
About halfway through the project (See progress chart outside the management office).
- 2) **Unit sales**

36A	\$415,000
37L	\$174,000
24C	\$285,000 (pending)
35K	\$277,000
6B	\$285,000
38G	\$255,000 (pending)
8B	\$305,000 (pending)
- 3) **Lobby circulation/handicapped ramp access project**
Captain's Walk mall vestibule entry door will be replaced.
- 4) **Critical & ongoing façade inspection**
Will start as soon as weather improves. Water infiltration will be inspected on the NE corner of the building.
- 5) **North Sheridan Road door update**
The new door is in, some edge filler will finish the project by next week hopefully.

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



What's happening around the building
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.

Garage construction project: As of Mar. 23, the project is on schedule.

Please look at the posting board in the lobby in front of the management office that shows the ongoing status.

Sheridan Road door: Repairs should be completed by April 2, 2007.

Captain's Walk door (main entrance): This door has been shut down for safety reasons with repairs scheduled to start in the near future. There is still one door that is available to use.

Laundry notice: The Laundry Room will be closed at 7:30am on Wednesday, Apr. 4 and will not reopen until late in the day on Thursday, Apr. 12. Universal Laundry will be remodeling the laundry room (paint and new folding tables), and will be installing new washers and dryers during this time. Thank you in advance for your cooperation during this project and feel free to contact me if you need any additional information regarding this matter.

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 fol-

lowed: (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 may result in a fine.

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.

Management office e-mail: For your convenience, if you need to contact the management office or the board of directors for any reason, you may e-mail your requests, concerns, problems, etc., to: malibueast@awb.us

SPECIAL NOTICE
Laundry Room will close for a 9 days
for remodeling
7:30am April 4 until late April 12

Community Calendar

by Miriam Romain



War II (begins at sundown the previous day).

April 21

Baha'i: Feast of Ridvan

Commemorates Baha'u'llah's

declaration of his mission as God's messenger (begins at sundown the previous day).

April 22

Earth Day

Non-religious celebration recognizing the importance of preserving our only planet.

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, Apr. 4, 7pm
(1st Wed. of every month)

Saturday Book Club

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

EDGEWATER

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Edgewater Earth Day

Sat., Apr. 21 - 8:30am - noon
Helen C. Peirce School
1423 W. Bryn Mawr
773-334-5609

EDGEWATER

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Fundraiser

Wed., Apr. 18, 6-9pm
That Little Mexican Café
1055 W. Bryn Mawr
\$40 in advance, \$45 at the door
"Richard Nickel's Chicago: Photographs of a Lost City"
Richard Cahan and Michael Williams speak about this best-selling book.
Sat., Apr. 21, 10am, Free
5358 N. Ashland Ave.
773-506-4849

THEATER/SHOWINGS

ACTORS WORKSHOP THEATRE

"Equus"

8pm Fri. & Sat., 3pm Sun.; \$25
1044 W. Bryn Mawr
773-728-7529

CITY LIT THEATRE COMPANY

"The Juniper Tree"

8pm Fri. & Sat., 3pm Sun.
Through Apr. 7
Call for prices
1020 W. Bryn Mawr
773-293-3682

PROFILES THEATRE

"Apple"

8pm Thu., Fri. & Sat., 7pm Sun.
\$25 Fri. & Sat., \$20 Thu. & Sun.
4147 N. Broadway
773-549-1815

RAVEN THEATRE

"The Girl in the Iron Masks"

West Stage
Call for times
"The Sea Gull"
East Stage
8 pm Thu.-Sat., 3pm Sun., \$25
6157 N. Clark
773-338-2177

COMMUNITY EVENTS/MEETINGS

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Passion Pilgrim"

Artist-guided tour, Free
Guided tour, Sun., Apr. 1, 3-5pm
Exhibit Mon.-Fri., 11am-3pm
1500 W. Elmdale
773-746-1820

MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

Dialogue Committee meeting

Tuesday, Apr. 17
7:30pm — Community Room

Thursday afternoon

discussion group

Thursday, Apr. 19
(every 3rd Thurs. of month)
2:00pm — Community Room

MECA board meeting

Tuesday, Apr. 24
7:30pm — Windjammer Room

Upcoming Events

Continental Brunch

Sun., May 20
Windjammer Room

White Elephant Sale

Sat., Jun. 23
Captain's Walk

APRIL HOLIDAYS

Holocaust Month

National Humor Month

National Poetry Month

Jazz Appreciation Month

April 1

Christian, Orthodox Christian: Palm Sunday

Sunday prior to Easter; commemorates Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem.

April 2

Theravada Buddhist: Theravada Buddhist New Year

New Year for many Buddhists in South East Asia; festivities continue for three days.

April 3 - April 10

Jewish: Passover

Eight-day festival marking the liberation of the Israelites from bondage in Egypt (begins at sundown April 2).

April 5

Christian: Holy Thursday

April 6

Christian: Good Friday

Commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus at Calvary.

Scottish-American: National Tartan Day

April 8

Buddhist: Vesak

Buddha's birth

Christian and Orthodox: Easter

Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Orthodox Christian: Pascha

Feast day commemorating the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Sikh: Baisakhi

Sikh New Year festival, most important date on the Sikh calendar.

Commemorates the year 1699, when Sikhism was formed as a faith.

April 15

Jewish: Yom HaShoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day; remembers the Jews killed during World

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Safe and sound

By Sandy Chaet

On Tuesday, March 13, ASCO (Association of Sheridan Condo/Co-op Owners) had a program called Safe and Sound presented by William Townshell from the Chicago Police Dept. One of the most interesting items discussed was the use of a cell phone. On your cell phone, 911 operators can tell what area you are calling from. Also suggested is to have an "ICE" (in case of emergency) number. This is a number that you just press # or a number and it signals directly to a person. Another idea is to call someone as you are walking, giving the location of where you are.

Ideas for personal safety included making eye contact and not looking afraid as you are walking. If someone approaches you for your wallet, throw it the opposite direction and run. Going to an ATM should be avoided at night.

There is a difference between calling 911 and 311. The three reasons for 911 calling are police services, fire services and

emergency medical services. There are 15,000 to 18,000 calls in a 24-hour period. The operators there do prioritize the calls into three groups. First, is any threat to life; second is something that is happening; and third anything else, for example, a barking a dog, and noise disturbances. If you call from your home telephone, the operator immediately gets information even before you give it, but from a cell phone, the location of the incident must be given. The reasons for calling 311 are to request city services & to report situations not requiring a police response. For city services, this is to request or report problems such as streetlights, potholes, rodents, graffiti, tree trimming, to get information about special events and neighborhood festivals (even including street closings for a parade) and to find out the date and location of a CAPS beat meeting. For police non-emergency, the reason to call can be to report a situation that does not pose an immediate threat to life, injury, or major property damage or loss; to file a police report; and to report a situation that doesn't require an immediate response includ-

ing auto theft, pick-pocketing and other offenses when the suspect is no longer at the scene. 911 and 311 do have operators who speak other languages.

(See the insert for further information.)

'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.



Construction continues on The Granville at the NW corner of Broadway and Granville

Restaurant Review

By Betty Mayian
Broadway Cellars

Remember *The Room*? Well, it's gone and in its place is a charming and very different type of restaurant. Tom and Geri



(really, that's their names) are husband and wife with experience in running other restaurants. In fact, they met and were married in a restaurant. The idea of having a dining establishment nearby with a fantastic wine list has lifted my spirits (pun). That's right; they actually sell the wine by the glass, flight, and bottle along with a wonderful menu of foods. A flight is a great way to try several wines and have them at a very good price. Three different glasses of wine can be tasted for only a dollar or two more than one. I chose to do this and got a nice selection of grapes. I chose Kim Crawford Sauv Blanc, from Australia; Benziger Merlot; and Nunsich Barbera, a red wine with a fruity taste.

For dinner, Ara and I split the asparagus salad with avocado and tomato and sweet pepper marinade. Very tasty and we truly enjoyed it, along with the bread and olive oil that was placed on our table. I wanted the coffee pork loin with butternut squash, but Ara picked it and swapped out the squash for regular mashed potatoes. The waiter, Anthony, gave me his favorite as a choice and I took it — the duck lasagna. We both enjoyed each dish, as we shared a bit. We filled up and decided to forgo dessert, until Anthony

brulee, and chocolate mousse. I said OK and wound up having to have it packed up to go. Geri gave us each a small glass of Michele Chiarlo Moscato dessert wine. The taste was very fine and crisp. Even Ara liked it.

We have gone back to this very nice restaurant a couple more times and that proves something, right? The owners include Geri's sister; all are very welcoming. We have enjoyed going there each time. They have a bar that is a warm place to sit while waiting to eat, or just to come and have a drink with friends.

A very special thing that Broadway Cellars has is a three-course fixed price menu on Thursdays. It is \$25 per person with wine. Each wine is a 3-oz. pour. The fixed price without wine is \$20. You can choose from a nice selection of appetizers, main courses and desserts with the wines that go with them. What a bargain. They may have golden beet soup with lentils, paired with a Casa Lapostolle Chardonnay 2005. Or maybe garden delights salad, caprese salad, or eggplant with herbed ricotta baked in tomato sauce. The main-course menu is a selection of four and includes my favorite of coffee-roasted loin of pork with spiced butternut squash, with Valley of the Moon Zinfandel 2003. Maybe you would rather have the four-cheese ravioli, half roasted chicken or soy-glazed salmon with Thai slaw. All the wines selected are appropriate for that dish. The dessert menu has lemon curd cheesecake, chocolate mousse cake, and caramel apple bread pudding — all three are paired with

said there was a trio of puddings — rice pudding, crème

Silvan Ridge Oregon Muscat 2004.

I heartily approve this place to sit and enjoy your favorite meal and wine. Let me know how you liked it.

5900 North Broadway
773-944-1208

Tue.–Thu. 5–10:00pm

Fri.–Sun. 5–11:00pm

Pictures wanted

Last month we published pictures by resident Joe LeSanche of the Feb. 13 snow storm. The Dialogue will consider publishing your pictures if they meet these criteria:

- Malibu East building
- balcony views
- private or MECA events in our common areas
- neighborhood events

Photos may be submitted in either digital or print form. Digital photos must be sent unedited and full-size (i.e., the original file from your camera) via email to Dialogue@MalibuEast.org. Place prints in an envelope and leave them at the lobby desk or management office to the attention of "Dialogue" (prints will be returned after use). All photos (digital or prints) must be accompanied with: name of photographer, unit number, contact telephone number, picture event details, and make, type and model of camera.

Photos may be cropped and/or edited per space requirements. Please note that all photos will be "grayscale" for our print edition and full-color only for our Web edition. Photos not published in the print edition may be submitted to the Malibu East Webmaster for publishing on our website at his discretion.

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Member FDIC

Pending legislation

By Jack Winans

These bills are currently being considered by the Illinois House, the Illinois Senate or both. The full text can be accessed by Googling "Illinois (the bill number)." If you do not have Internet access and would like a copy, please contact the Dialogue at 773-334-0680. The Dialogue would like to thank ASCO President Sheli Lulkin for providing much of this information. Our ASCO representative, Sandy Chaet, keeps our MECA board informed on pending legislation that could impact MECA and its owners.

SB0196 and HB1071

Condo manager license

Summary: Requires licensing of managers of community associations and creates a regulatory commission with members appointed by the Governor. Sets fees for associations and managers, licensing requirements and provides for discipline.

SB0196

Sponsor: 6th Dist. Sen. John J. Cullerton, Majority Caucus Whip

Status: 3/16/07 Senate, re-referred to Rules Committee

HB1071

Sponsor: 57th Dist. Rep. Elaine Nekritz and 77th Dist. Angelo Saviano

Status: 2/15/07 House, assigned to Registration and Regulation Committee

HB0759

Condo Advisory Council

Summary: A council composed of 7 members, 4 appointed by the legislative leaders and 3 appointed by the Governor. Chairman appointed by the Governor. The council shall: (1) identify issues facing condominium owners, associations and others with financial interests in condominiums; (2) study the Condominium Property Act and related acts and suggest legislation; (3) report its findings and recommendations by Jan. 31, 2008. The council shall be dissolved 30 days after reporting its findings.

Sponsor: 14th Dist. Rep. Harry Osterman (& others)

Status: 3/2/07 Passed House, 3/6/07 placed on Senate calendar

HB1797

Condo convert notice liability

Summary: Amends the Condominium

Property Act. Provides compensation for tenants who vacated a conversion condominium and who did not receive notice of intent to submit the real estate to the ACT.

Sponsor: 14th Dist. Rep. Harry Osterman (& others)

Status: 2/27/07 House, assigned to Judiciary I - Civil Law Committee

HB2042

Condominium Ombudsperson

Summary: Creates the office of the Condominium Ombudsperson. The Ombudsperson shall offer training and educational materials and courses to condominium unit owners, condominium associations, and boards of managers in subjects relevant to the operation and management of condominium property and the rights and duties of a unit owner or unit owners' association. Requires the Ombudsperson to maintain a statewide toll-free telephone number, and a website with certain specified information, to provide information or assistance on matters relating to condominium property. Financed by an annual fee of \$3 times the number of units.

Sponsor: 57th Dist. Rep. Elaine Nekritz

Status: 3/1/2007 House, assigned to State Government Administration Committee

HB3461

Condo Oversight Officer

Summary: Requires the Secretary of Financial and Professional Regulation to appoint within the Division of Professional Regulation a Condo Oversight Officer to (i) receive complaints from condominium owners and create and maintain an electronic database of those complaints, accessible and searchable by the public, (ii) receive and investigate complaints from condominium boards, and (iii) report annually to the General Assembly, Governor, and Attorney General on recommendations for changes in condominium law.

Sponsor: 12th Dist. Rep. Sara Feigenholtz

Status: 3/15/07 House, placed on Calendar 2nd Reading

HB1069 and SB0389

Condo-Distressed Property

Summary: Amends the Condominium Property Act. Provides procedures for addressing distressed condominium property that is a danger, blight, or nuisance

to the surrounding community or the public and that is substantially unoccupied, without utilities, or in a serious negative condition.

Sponsor: 33rd Dist. Rep. Marlow H. Colvin

Status: 3/1/07 House, placed on Calendar 2nd Reading

SB0528

Condo-Garage Storage Not Units

Summary: Amends the Condominium Property Act. Provides that where the Act addresses the minimum voting requirements for taking action by a condominium owner's association in which 30% or less of the condominium units possess 50% or more of the association votes, a unit for the purpose of voting on matters before the Association by virtue of the Act or in the condominium instruments, shall not include a garage or a storage unit.

Sponsor: 6th Dist. Sen. John J. Cullerton, Majority Caucus Whip

Status: 3/2/07 Senate, placed on Calendar Order of 3rd Reading March 6, 2007

HB3391

Regulation-Tech

Summary: Amends the Public Utilities Act. Makes a technical change in a section concerning definitions.

The State Legislature is working on a solution to the re-classification of condominiums (common elements) from a residential to a commercial rate. It appears that our interests are currently best served by HB 3391, which is a working product of Speaker Michael Madigan, State Rep. Harry Osterman (D-District 14 Chicago) and the Attorney General's office. The bill is currently in the House Executive Committee but is expected to be reported out sometime next week. To reflect the interests of condominium associations, the bill will be amended before it is reported out. (*Comment by: Gael Mennecke, Executive Director, ACTHA (Association of Condominium, Townhouse, and Homeowners Associations), 28 E. Jackson Blvd., Ste. 910, Chicago, IL 60604, 312-987-1906.*)

Sponsor: 14th Dist. Rep. Harry Osterman

Status: 3/1/2007 House, assigned to Executive Committee

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Social Committee

By Betty Mayian

I became involved with the Social Committee “back in the day” when one of the functions was to produce a children’s Easter egg hunt for the kids in the building.



At that time the committee dyed the eggs and hid them all around in the Windjammer Room. We also bought candies and gave them out while monitoring the hunt activities for the children. This function has now spun off from Social into the Parents Committee. Check with the office to see whom you would contact to join this group, if you are a parent and want to help out.

A second spin-off is the Thursday afternoon discussion group, which meets in the Community Room on the third Thursday of the month at 2pm. Ilse Siegler is the founder and Ruth Betty Spilky shares duties of moderating a lively discussion group each month. Rose Wandel was a big contributor with this group until she moved away. Mainly retired people come to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and a cookie or two, while talking about events in the community, nation, and world. This group has also hosted medical personnel who dispense inoculations; pharmacists who will counsel you with prescriptions; and even movies have been shown to the group with a discussion that followed. All you need to do to join this group is to show up. Notices are put on the bulletin boards.

Another spin-off from Social is the Sports & Entertainment Committee, under Neil Warner. The gym room, ping-pong room and billiards room are all under this committee. Yoga instruction is a new addition to the group. These committees, except the Parents Committee, use the Social Committee budget. Leave a note with the doorman for Neil if you have any ideas for the Sports Committee.

All of the committees look for help in getting their messages across — through flyers or the website. Larry Rosen, our computer expert and Webmaster, is the one who helps out in getting the flyers done and adding information to the website, as well.

Now, back to the main subject of the

Social Committee. Sandy Chaet has been with (and chairman of) the MECA Social Committee for many years. The objective of this important committee is to provide an atmosphere that is conducive for residents to meet and mingle with their neighbors and to provide a sense of community in such a large building. The procedure of the (almost) monthly meetings has Sandy putting together an agenda for the coming meeting and making copies that are left with the doorman for each of the members. At the meetings, the coming events are discussed, and the details are delegated among the committee members, including refreshments and duties during the event.

The function is to plan events, activities, community speakers, parties, classes and outings for the MECA residents. The activities that are planned sometimes require an R.S.V.P. This is important and gives us a chance to properly purchase the correct amount of refreshments for the attendees. Some examples of each of these are as follows:

- Events: Belly dancer; Hawaiian luau; Sunday brunches; singing groups; musicians
- Activities: White elephant sale in Captain’s Walk; Game nights; Welcome Wagon Packet delivered to new residents
- Community speakers: Fire safety speaker; CAPS speaker
- Parties: Yearly holiday party in the lobby; International pot luck night with food from many nations; Dance parties
- Classes: Free dance classes
- Outings: Boat trips; Gambling bus trips

Sandy and the rest of the Social Committee will welcome new people. Also, most welcome are suggestions for events or speakers. If anyone wants to join this, or any committee, please leave your name, phone number and unit number with the doorman. Make sure you address the note to the committee you want to join.

Editor’s note: These committees are currently assigned to our writers: Pet, Social, Architecture & Aesthetics, Floor Representatives, and Sports & Entertainment. We invite residents to contact the Dialogue with requests for articles on specific committees.



Wright names Phenomenal Woman

Wilbur Wright College has named a “role model of caring and compassion” as its Phenomenal Woman as part of Woman’s History Month.

The award winner, Joyce Wandel, of Chicago’s North Mayfair neighborhood, is director of Wright’s occupational therapy assistant program.

“Joyce is so committed to her vocation, and that passion inspires students seeking to enter the profession,” said Wright President Charles Guengerich. “Students want to be like her. When you have that impact, that’s the highest compliment an instructor can get.”

Wandel, who has taught in the City Colleges of Chicago system for 22 years, was Wright’s 2006 Distinguished Service Professor. At that time, Guengerich received many unsolicited letters from students who described Wandel as an inspiration.

The American Association for Women in Community Colleges has presented the Phenomenal Woman award for 11 years. Each college in the City Colleges of Chicago selects one award winner to be recognized during Woman’s History Month. The award recipients will be honored at a March 30 luncheon.

Source: Ed Bannon, Wright College Media Relations 773-481-8535

Editor’s note: Joyce Wandel is the daughter of Rose Wandel, former MECA resident and Dialogue staff writer.

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.



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Earth day

The Edgewater Community Council / Edgewater Beautiful Committee are delighted to announce its first Edgewater Earth Day.



When: Saturday, April 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Where: Helen C. Peirce School 1423 West Bryn Mawr.

Join us for a FREE seminar and workshops and learn important, useful information about steps you can take with home gardening, native plants and trees,

permeable surfaces and storm water management, energy efficiency and recycling.

Encourage your friends and neighbors to be informed and enthused about helping make Edgewater the most beautiful community in Chicago.

Limited parking is available in the lot east of the school and street parking. However, consider either walking or biking to the celebration since this is Earth Day.

Please share this information with everyone in your community. Contact the ECC office at 773-334-5609 if you have questions.

Together, we can make a difference.

Source: *Edgewater Community Council flyer*

Malibu East Condominium

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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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