

Malibu East Dialogue

March 2010

Your Communication and Information Resource

MECA again in primary turnout forefront

Primary Election

Feb. 2, 2010

By Thomas C. Vaughan

The primary election was held at its new early time on Tuesday, Feb. 2. As usual, Malibu East, which comprises the 22nd Precinct of the 48th Ward, held the election in our first-floor lobby. Again, MECA was at the forefront of turnout with 63.8% of our voters participating. Of the 583 voters registered for this election, 314 opted for a Democratic ballot and 56 choose the Republican side. Two ballots were taken for the Green Party. Eighty-eight of these voters chose either early voting or absentee ballots.

MECA's lobby polling location again opened at 6am and closed as scheduled at 7pm. There was no one waiting when we opened in the morning and there was never a wait for one of our eight standing voting booths, one sit-down touch-screen booth and one sit-down-handicapped-voting station. Magnifying aids were available and the touch screen station also had audio instructions through headphones for the visually challenged. As is now comfortable for most residents, voters ran their own completed ballots through the Ballot Scanner, which allowed them to instantly know if the ballot was 1) mistakenly not initialed by an election judge, 2) was undervoted, 3) overvoted, or 4) both undervoted and overvoted. The connect-the-arrow-paper ballot was the most popular with most of our voters using this option versus the touch screen.

Our voting for the major offices paralleled the final outcome, with the only exceptions being the still-unresolved GOP Governor race, showing MECA favoring Kirk Dillard 25% to Bill Brady's 9%. Also the GOP lieutenant

governor's race winner Jason Plummer received only 15% of our vote. Democrat voters here gave 65% of their votes to comptroller candidate S. Raja Krishnamoorthi, while the ultimate winner, David E. Miller, received only 29%. See the result sheet on our mailroom bulletin boards and at <http://tiny.cc/mxLtL> on our Website MalibuEast.org for complete election results.

Working as election judges for the 16-hour day, were MECA residents Marian Davis, Marie Joaillier, Adeline Kalant, and this writer. We also had Edgewater residents Jesse and Ruth Chase from Thorndale Avenue performing election judge duties. Mr. and Mrs. Chase are new residents from Wisconsin, and Ruth is a certified massage therapist now working with medical professionals in Chicago.

Due to the increased electronic sophistication in elections, we again had a polling place administrator. The PPAs do not have the same authority as an election judge but are there to assist the judges with the technical aspects of operating the voting equipment. He was welcome help to our long day. At the end of the Election Day, the results are consolidated from the touch screen and the paper ballot reader and then electronically transmitted to the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners. This information is stored on memory packs that are in turn delivered to election personnel later that evening.

Election judges are always needed in the city. Should anyone have interest in working future elections, they can con-



tact the election board, either of the two parties' ward committeemen, or any of our election judges.

For those citizens not registered to vote, this can be completed at Chicago's public libraries or in person at the Board of Election Commissioners offices at 69 West Washington (the Brunswick Building across the street south from the Civic Center). The telephone number is (312) 269-7900 for information. Periodically, the election board also has registration booths set up at neighborhood locations and festivals. Watch the Dialogue for publication of such opportunities.

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MECA board meeting notes

by Elaine Winans

MECA board meeting notes Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010

By Elaine Winans

Elaine@MalibuEast.org

Attendance: 9 board members, 2 management representatives and 7 residents

Not present: Cass Buscher, Dan Denton, Eleida Gomez

Presiding: President Molins



OPEN FORUM 1

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) Discussion of DirecTV problems and getting the Laundry Room and management channels.

REVISIONS TO AGENDA

- 1) Update on 27th floor fire damage Under items not requiring board action

TREASURER'S REPORT

Neil Warner

1) Financial statement

Balance on hand, cash and reserves
\$2,630,934.73

2) Delinquencies

\$135,765.43 total (*highest ever*)
\$114,200.00 is more than 30 days past due

14 units have been sent to our attorneys land 35 units have been assessed late charges.

The board discussed methods to strengthen the process of collecting past-due assessments, including letters explaining the collection procedures.

3) Audits

Audits have been mailed to all owners. If you have not received your copy, contact the management office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Rules and Regulations

Cass Buscher
No report

2) Floor Representatives

Eleida Gomez
No report

3) Security

Sandy Chaet
No report

4) Social and Educational

Sandy Chaet
Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 4 at 7pm in the Community Room. Easter egg hunt planned (see page 7).

5) Commercial Property

Marcel Molins
No report

6) Architecture & Aesthetics

Daniel Denton
No report

7) ASCO report

Sandy Chaet
(See page 6)

8) Garage

Martina Molins
Standard Parking report
Syed Haider, Mgr.

Claims

Total: 0

Waiting lists

Single self-park: 2
Tandem self-park: 5

Monthly parkers

Total: 449

Garage capacity

Total: 534
(Under capacity) 85

Changes

New monthlies: 3

9) Public & Community Affairs

Sandy Chaet
No report

10) Pets

Sandy Chaet
No report

11) Parents

Marcia Fishman
No report

12) Sports and Entertainment

Neil Warner
New yoga class next Monday, March 1. Still looking at options for the old equipment in the former Fitness Room. Also looking at uses for the extra space in the Teen Room. Looking at options that would make the door to the new Fitness Room

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.

easier to open.

13) Finance & Insurance

Neil Warner
No report

14) Long Range Plans & Special Projects

Leon LeRoy
No report

15) Communications

Neil Warner
\$1,500 in black; project a \$1,600 loss at the end of 2010

16) Legal

Cass Buscher
No report

17) Building Maintenance & Services

Sandy Chaet
Working on reupholstering the furniture in the Windjammer and Community rooms.

18) Cable

Cass Buscher
No report

19) Life Safety

Dean Lerner
Planning work in progress on the two-way communications system.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Chris Chiodo

Items requiring

immediate board action

1) Employee recognition program

Sandy Chaet
Social Committee suggests former letters of recommendation and plaques in the future be accompanied by cash rewards for those with long periods of service, including the milestones of 10, 15 and 20 years.

2) Life Safety project

Dean Lerner
Need CAD drawing with electronic floor planning. \$4,000 was approved for this project.

Items requiring

future board action

1) None at this time.

Items not requiring board action

1) Satellite TV status

Discussed above.

- 2) **Facade ordinance repairs**
Proposal to do a short-form inspection as we have a very proactive program and very good results. This could result in substantial savings, with fewer drops.
- 3) **Garage construction**
From 2,000 to 3,900 square feet of concrete under the tennis court (roof of the garage) has deteriorated due to moisture infiltrating into the sub-structure of sand and an overlay of artificial grass. The original construction was state-of-the-art 17 years ago. We're estimating, in worst scenario, the cost could put us as much as \$150,000 over budget to restore this area.
All new garage construction work has been done according to best construction standards; thus, we're recommending not to shortchange this project. Looking to do this project right, including installing a membrane and doing scheduled preventive maintenance.
This project was approved.
- 4) **Laundry Room project**
Should have the contract within a week.
- 5) **Unit sales**
8B \$250,000 pending
- 6) **MECA owned units update**
18D, 36E 41K 28E
All four units are now in the hands of brokers.
- 7) **Update on 27th floor fire damage**
Replacing drywall, tiling patio door. Hallway carpet will be replaced out of current stock, now that all contaminated material has been removed.

RATIFICATION OF ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

- 1) None
- NEW BUSINESS**
- 1) None

OPEN FORUM 2—9pm

Resident comments and questions:

- 1) Are we appealing our real estate taxes? **Yes**
- 2) What has been our average reserve fund over the past 10 years? **Between \$2 million and \$3 million.**

The meeting ended at 9:40pm and went into closed session.



What's happening around the building

by Chris Chiodo, MECA Manager

Management report

By Chris Chiodo
malibueast@awb.us

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

Parking garage repairs 2010: A work progress board has been set up outside the management office. We are on schedule and have not run into any problems that would lengthen the project.

Construction activity within the units:

This is defined as any sort of improvements, alterations or repairs within a unit, which shall include but not limited to work related to electrical, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, remodeling, carpentry, plastering, painting and flooring. All construction must comply with Chicago building codes and the unit owner must obtain any and all permits required to perform construction activity. All such work, whether electrical, plumbing or otherwise, must be performed by licensed, bonded and insured contractors. The unit owner shall notify

the management office at least **ten (10) days in advance** of any construction activity other than minor construction activity, and **submit in writing the proposed scope of the work** to be conducted and any other pertinent documents, including a proposed time frame that is reasonable and customary for such a project.

Water heaters and other fixtures servicing your unit: Unit owners are responsible for maintaining in good working condition the water heaters, air conditioner and all fixtures, pipes, conduits, ducts, windows walls, ceilings, doors, plaster, improvements and betterments, which service your unit exclusively.

Insurance: All unit owners must purchase and maintain a minimum of \$500,000 of insurance coverage to cover your personal liability and compensatory damages to another unit whether caused

by the negligence of the owner or his or her guests, residents, or invitees, or regardless of any negligence originating from the unit.

SPECIAL NOTICE
All unit construction activity must be reported to the management office.

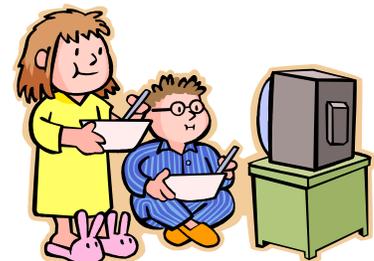
Cable TV: For any Cable TV questions, please contact the USA Wireless office at 847-831-4561.

E-mail: You may contact the management office or the board of directors for any reason, with requests, concerns, problems, etc.
E-mail to: malibueast@awbworld.com

The Laundry Room

Cable channel 2

If you have a TV hooked up to cable without the DirecTV box, you can get the Laundry Room on channel 2 and the management announcements on channel 101.



Community Calendar

By Betty Mayian

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

EDGEWATER

BRANCH

LIBRARY

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

Saturday Book Club

11am 1st Sat. month
1210 W. Elmdale
312-744-0718
tinyurl.com/5155tl

EDGEWATER

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Normal Saturday hours: Museum
open Sat noon to 4pm
Speaker Gary Johnson, Pres. Chi-
cago History Museum, on Sat., Mar.
20, 10am at Edgewater Pub. Lib.,
1210 W. Elmdale
5358 N. Ashland
773-506-4849
edgewaterhistory.org

WARREN PARK

Ice skating rink hours:

We-Fr 3-5pm & 5:30-7:30pm
Sa & Su 12:30-2:30pm, 3-5pm &
5:30-7:30pm
6601 N. Western
312-742-7888
tinyurl.com/7tlo7

WHITE CRANE

WELLNESS CENTER

Adult day wellness programs for 60
and over. Gentle yoga, tai chi, music
exercise, lunch and snacks. Trans-
portation provided within boundary
area.
1355 W. Foster Ave.
773-271-9001
whitecranewellness.org

THEATER/SHOWINGS

LIFELINE THEATRE

"Mrs. Caliban"

Dorothy is locked in a lifeless mar-
riage of empty domestic ritual until a
fugitive from another world arrives
on her doorstep.
Thru Mar. 28
Call for hours & prices
6912 N. Glenwood Ave.
773-761-4477
lifelinetheatre.com



PEGASUS PLAYERS THEATRE

"The Gimmick"

Young Alexis' journey to find refuge
from the brutal streets through li-
brary bookshelves.
Thru Mar. 28
1145 W. Wilson
773-878-9761
pegasusplayers.org

PROFILES THEATRE

"Killer Joe"

Texas clan of greedy siblings hire
Killer Joe to kill their mother for the
inheritance.
Thru Apr. 11
8pm Th-Sa, & 5pm Sa, 7pm Su
4147 N. Broadway
773-549-1815
profilestheatre.org

RAVEN THEATRE

"12 Angry Men"

A must-see; Jeff recommended.
Thru Apr. 17
8pm Th-Sa, & 3pm Su
6157 N. Clark
773-338-2177
raventheatre.com

REDTWIN THEATRE

"The Pillowman"

A spellbinding drama with dark hu-
mor about a writer accused of doing
the very acts depicted in his murder-
ous stories. Thru Mar. 14
1044 W. Bryn Mawr
773-728-7529
redtwist.org

STEEP THEATRE

"Harper Regan"

This is a family drama, complete
with secret revelations and hard-
earned truth-telling. Thru Mar. 28
1115 W. Berwyn
866-811-4111
steeptheatre.com

MECA EVENTS/MEETINGS

Dialogue Committee meeting

Wednesday, Mar. 17
7:30pm — Community Room
**Thursday afternoon
discussion group**
Thursday, Mar. 18
(every 3rd Thurs. of month)
2:00pm — Community Room
MECA board meeting
Tuesday, Mar. 23
7:30pm — Windjammer Room

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

MARCH HOLIDAYS

Irish-American Month

March 1

Northern India: Holi

Festival of Color, Northern Indian cele-
bration marking the beginning of spring
with a deluge of color. Various social
classes are encouraged to interact with
one another. Begins with the full moon.

March 14

Daylight saving time begins.

March 17

Christian: St. Patrick's Day

Celebration of St. Patrick, who is said to
have brought Christianity to Ireland.

March 20

Pagan: Ostara

Spring equinox — a time of renewal and
rebirth.

March 21

Baha'i: Nau-Roz

New Year and feast honoring the one
Deity as Baha — Splendor; observance of
the vernal equinox symbolizing spiritual
growth and renewal.

Zoroastrian: Norooz

New Year celebration regarded as the
most important day of the year. Customs
include wearing new clothes, giving
gifts, and settling disputes.

March 24

Hindu: Rama Navami

Birthday of Lord Rama, an incarnation of
Vishnu and the hero of the Ramayana.

March 25

Zoroastrian /Parsis: Khordad Sal-The Greater Noruz

Birthday of the prophet Zarathustra; cele-
brated the sixth day of the Parsi month.

March 30

Buddhist: Magha Puja Day/Sangha Day

Celebration of the presentation of teach-
ings by Lord Buddha.

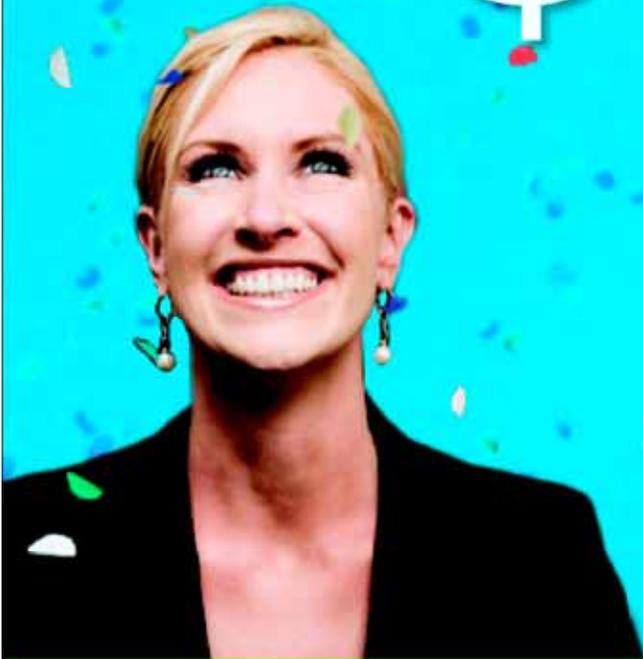
Jewish: Passover

Passover is the Jewish celebration lasting
seven to eight days (seven in Israel, eight
outside of it) that marks the freedom of
the Jews from enslavement by the Egyp-
tians. Starts at sunset of Monday, the 29th
of March and will continue for seven
days until Monday, the 5th of April.

A NEW YEAR, A NEW YOU!

RECEIVE UP TO

\$75



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IN THE CAPTAIN'S WALK
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2935 W. Peterson Ave. at Richmond

2201 W. Howard St. at Ridge
3200 W. Touhy Ave. at Kedzie

6033 N. Sheridan Rd. at Glenlake
7050 N. Western Ave. south of Touhy

(773) 761-4300 thefirstcommercialbank.com

*Promotion is available for new savings account relationships only. See a First Commercial Bank Personal Banker for details.



ASCO annual meeting

New condo legislation disturbing
By Jack Winans

ASCO's Feb. 16 annual meeting was held at the Park Tower. President Sheli Lulkin opened the meeting with a discourse on several current concerns. She announced that 14th Ward Ald. Edward M. Burke (who does not have a high-rise in his ward) is campaigning once again for sprinkler systems in residential high-rises.



The planning of rebuilding, not resurfacing, Sheridan Road is going forward.

48th Ward Ald. Mary Ann Smith is the only one of the four aldermen affected who is in favor of parking on Ridge Ave. ASCO is against it as it would result in more traffic on Sheridan Road.

The Friends of the Parks' "Last Four Miles" plan will be discussed at a presidents' meeting, and then ASCO condominium representatives will vote their desires as directed by their condo associations. ASCO has not taken a position on this plan up to now. The plan would open the north and south ends of the lakefront to the public through extensive construction of various designs, including pathways, islands, etc. It could bring years of construction work and noise to our area.

Michael C. Kim, ASCO legal counsel and noted condominium/co-op law specialist, conducted a briefing on changes in Illinois law affecting condo members; the facts are distressing.

Even with ASCO (Association of Sheridan Condo/Co-op Owners) and other homeowner organizations keeping watch and crying out the alarm on our behalf, certain politicians, under the pretense of "helping us," are pumping up the reach and size of Illinois bureaucracies that control condominiums. Not content with "nickel and diming" us with new legislation, red tape and further layers of administration, attempts are being made to extend their power and fill their pockets by folding other homeowner organizations into the umbrella of the Illinois



L to R: ASCO President Sheli Lulkin with attorney Michael C Kim, ASCO legal counsel and condominium/co-op law specialist

Condominium Act. This would allow them control over many more thousands of homeowners and the collection of enormous fees from, as of now, untapped resources.

Below is a list of some of the legislation that either directly or indirectly affects condominiums. Full details can be had at <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation//>

HB5281 Deals with manager licensing that will become effective July 10, 2010.

Provides that all community associations that have 10 or more units and are registered in the state as not-for-profit corporations shall pay to the department a fee of \$50 plus an additional \$1 per unit within 30 days after July 1, 2010 and every five years thereafter. Effective immediately. Previously there was no state regulating or licensing of condo managers.

The infrastructure and the testing and licensing will not take effect until a year later after the adoption of rules.

HB5422 Condominium Ombudsman Act

In response to complaints about condominiums improperly run. Will offer training to board member and condo owners.

Prospective directors must testify that they have read the condo declaration. The bureaucracy may also offer training. A fee will be charged based on the number of units — \$3 per unit.

SB3180 Creates the Common Interest Community Association Act.

Extends Illinois bureaucracy to even more homeowners associations.



Thanks to Webmaster Larry Rosen

Making assessment payments effortless

Sudler Property Management is offering more choices to pay your assessments. In addition to paying by check, for many years we have offered the automatic debit program SNAPP — Sudler's No-check Automatic Payment Plan.

Our new program will also give you the options of making a direct payment from your bank account or paying by credit card.

Mail a check to the lockbox

Cost: postage; Time: varies; Max: none

Enroll in SNAPP

Automatic debit to your bank account.

Cost: none; Time: 5th of month;

Max: none

Direct payment online

Log onto sudlerathome.com

Choose "Pay Online" and "eCheck"

Provide bank information

Cost: varies; Time: 1 to 3 business days; Max: \$2,000

Credit card payment

Log onto sudlerathome.com

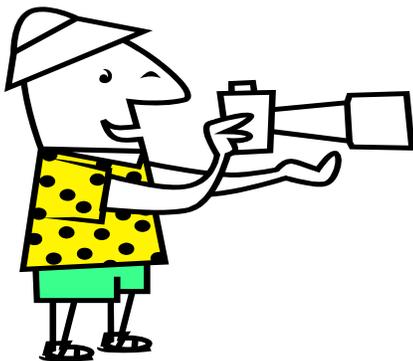
Choose "Pay Online"

Provide credit card information

Cost: varies; Time: 3 business days; Max: \$2,000

For questions or further information, contact Sudler or the MECA management office.

Source: Sudler Property Management



Picture(s) of the month

Residents may submit pictures of Malibu East events. Please forward files to the editor at: Dialogue@MalibuEast.org along with information and the date of the event, your name, unit and telephone numbers. Or leave prints at the doorman's station. We will copy and return them.

Lower your taxes

Do not miss on your property tax exemptions

R. T. Madaan

We just received our property tax bills. The recent increase in the property tax has affected almost all the residents of Malibu East. In order to lower our tax burden, we should not miss any available exemption. Below are some commonly known exemptions as well as a few not-so-commonly-known exemptions.



These exemptions are available in Cook County and/or the City of Chicago.

1. Homeowner exemption

Owners who use their single-family home, townhouse, condominium, co-op or apartment building (up to six units) as their primary residence are eligible for a homeowner exemption. First-time applicants must have been the occupant of the property as of Jan. 1 of the tax year in question. Cook County may automatically renew homeowner exemptions for properties that were not sold to new owners in the last year.

2. Longtime occupant exemption

Owners who have been living in their home for a long time and who are eligible for the homeowner exemption can also apply for a longtime homeowner exemption. An application is required for this exemption. This not-so-commonly-known exemption is often missed. Call 311 or visit cityofchicago.org for more information on this exemption. If you go to City Hall, you can apply for this exemption in person and they can reduce your taxes, if you qualify.

3. Senior citizen homestead exemption

For the 2009 tax year, the applicant must have owned and occupied the property as of Jan. 1, 2009, and must have been 65 years of age or older during the year for which you are applying.

4. Senior citizen assessment freeze exemption

Qualified senior citizens can apply for a freeze of the assessed value of their property. Over time, in many areas, this program results in taxes increasing only minimally and often decreasing as sur-

rounding properties continue to rise in assessed value. This is the most valuable homeowner exemption program. The value increases over the years as it eliminates the impact of regular reassessment increases that may occur every three years.

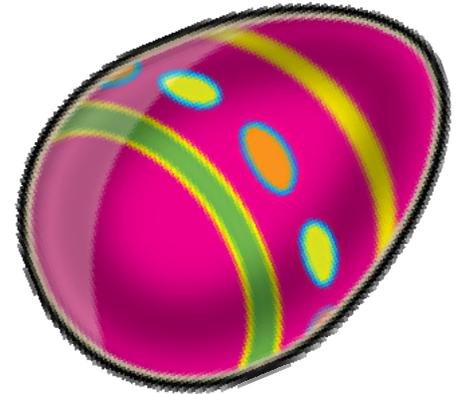
5. Home improvement exemption

Homeowners can make up to \$75,000 worth of property improvements without an increase in property taxes for at least four years. The value varies depending on the reduction of the assessed value and the tax rates where the property is located.

There are also some state and city programs, including Senior Citizen Tax Deferral, Disabled Veteran Homestead Exemption, Circuit Breaker Program, and Chicago Homeowner Assistance Program.

Some of the above exemptions must be applied for or renewed annually.

For more information, visit: cookcountytreasurer.com



Easter egg hunt

By Sandy Chaet

There will be an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, Apr. 3 for children under the age of 10. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

We will begin the activity by meeting in the Community Room at 10am. The hunt for eggs will start promptly at 10:15am in the Windjammer Room. Please bring a basket/bag to hold eggs collected. Refreshments will be served.



MECA treasurer duties

An interview of MECA treasurer Neil Warner

By Kim O'Neal

Q: What are your duties as treasurer?



A: Here are a number of duties that come to mind:

1. Approval of check requests. Make sure invoice amount is correct and expense is allocated to proper account. If another board member is overseeing the project, I have to ensure that he/she approved the invoice first. In the case of projects for which the board approved the expenditure of a specific sum, I must make sure that the amount charged on the invoice coincides with the amount approved by the board. This is generally something I do once a week, taking 1-2 hours on average each week.

2. Oversee investment of funds. Look for best yields on deposits without sacrificing safety of funds. Make sure no account surpasses FDIC-insured level if possible.

3. When a resident seeks the reversal of a late charge, I must review the account history to see if the rules warrant a reversal.

4. When a resident requests the return of an assessment deposit, I must review the account history to determine whether the rules permit the return of the deposit.

5. Chair the Finance and Insurance Committee, which meets primarily to address the budget and the audit.

6. Work with our auditing firm to make sure it has all necessary information to accurately complete the audit of our financial statements. Answer questions from the auditor. Compile questions raised by the Finance Committee regarding the first draft of the audit and convey those questions to the auditor. Sign off on the audited financial statements after all questions have been resolved.

7. Write a cover letter to accompany the financial statements when they are sent to the owners.

8. Work with the Finance Committee to agree on a budget for the next fiscal year,

trying to find a level of funding that will pay all anticipated expenses but, at the same time, won't unfairly burden our owners. Write a budget letter to owners.



9. Present a treasurer's report at each board meeting, summarizing the financial statements and the delinquency report.

10. Provide an annual recap of the association's financial condition at the annual owners meeting.

11. Sign off on the association's income tax returns each year, federal and state, as prepared by our auditing firm.

12. Make sure the reserve expenses for a specific account don't exceed the budgeted expenses for that account.

13. Correspond with owners who raise questions about their accounts.

14. Work with any owner who requests a payment plan to pay off an overdue assessment or other charges.

15. Review monthly reports on garage income and expenses from Standard Parking.

Q: What are the spikes in responsibility in a given year?

A: My time commitment spikes when I'm working to finalize the audit, which usually begins in late spring/early summer and typically carries into the fall, and when I'm working on the budget, which begins in August and is completed in November. Unfortunately, these often coincide with my busier times at my full-time job, which is executive editor at Pro Football Weekly, a weekly newspaper with a national distribution and its own Web site, on which I spend much of my workweek.

Q: Is there any past experience that helps you in your role?

A: As a child I helped my mother with the bookkeeping of my parents' business, basically making sure the accounts balanced, and math was always one of my better subjects in school. Other than that, though, I have no formal training in ac-

counting.

Q: Is there any advice you can give to an owner who may be considering whether to volunteer for a position on the board?

A: Because there is no compensation for the time you spend on board work, and you will hear more complaints than compliments, you should know this up front and be somewhat thick-skinned. You need to be willing to devote a block of time to board work, probably a minimum of 6-8 hours a month, sometimes considerably more depending on whether you're an officer and which committees you're a member of. I probably devote 10 to 16 hours a month to board work. Like most jobs, a position on the board is what you make of it. The more time you're able to devote to it, the more you will accomplish. It can be a lot of work, but it also can be very rewarding at times.



✂ Clip & Save

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

MECA Doorman's Station	271-1769
MECA Garage Office	271-5193
MECA Management Office	271-1732
MECA Receiving Room	271-2608
Sudler Property Mgmt.	312-751-0900

CAPTAIN'S WALK MALL

Dr. Ahmad Bastani	506-9600
Dr. Jack Horbal	275-0110
First Commercial Bank	564-4122
Sheridan Hair & Body Studio	561-6595
Malibu Cleaners	728-6023
Malibu Convenient Store	769-5440
H. M. Wagner Realty	334-0200

CITY SERVICES/UTILITIES

Aging & Disability	312-744-4016
Alderman Mary Ann Smith	773-784-5277
Assessor's Office	312-443-7550
Chicago Transit Authority	312-664-7200
Chicago Park District	312-747-2200
City Hall Inquiry & Info	312-744-5000
Com Ed	800-334-7661
Consumer Services	312-744-4006
48th Ward Streets & San	312-744-2130
Edgewater Branch library	312-744-0718
Police (24th Dist.)	312-744/5907
Police/Fire Emergency Only	911
Police/Fire Non-emergency	311
RTA Travel Information	312-836-7000
USA Wireless	800-433-4558

Reach 500 units here plus 50 condominium offices!

CAREGivers You Can Rely On.



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- Meal Preparation
- Shopping & Errands
- Bathing/Dressing

Call for a free, no-obligation appointment:
773 784 4024
Serving Sheridan Road

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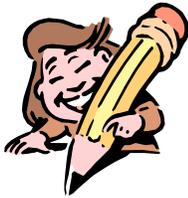
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Elevator common sense

By Etta Kitt

Many of our new residents are new to condominium living — and many are new to living in a building with elevators. What comes as second nature to those who have lived here for many years can be confusing to newcomers and their guests. If you will try to follow these common-sense suggestions, we'll all get along much better.



While waiting for an elevator, don't stand in front of the door — residents will be trying to get off before you can get on. Try to move to the back if you are going to a high floor.

Please take off large backpacks and hold them in front of you — they swing in a big arc!

Also, please don't hold large purses at your side, sticking way behind you — you're taking extra space.

Please dress appropriately when coming from a jog, the gym or the pool. We're glad you're staying in shape, but the closeness of your sweat really turns us off in a crowded elevator.

Turn off your MP3 player and cell phone. No one cares that you're into Bon Jovi or wants to hear the details of your girlfriend's troubles.

Use the "right" elevator. Residents with

carts and dogs **MUST** use the freight elevator when available and sometimes suffer from unnecessary "long" waits when other residents use it as a passenger elevator.



The Dialogue would like to hear from you on elevator common sense.

'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.

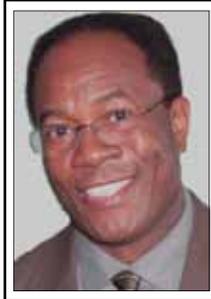
Balcony Man by Scott Virzi



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It's not 1940

Editorial by Jack Winans

Dialogue@MalibuEast.org

I recently got this diatribe in an e-mail from a distraught reader whose laundry cart went missing from her laundry room.

"I am very deeply disappointed to learn that I share a laundry room with someone who steals other people's property. Makes me wonder, do I want a thief as a neighbor?"

As editor, I occasionally get a complaint about a theft or perceived theft — everything from unit door decoration to my own daughter's jeans.

I'm not surprised in this day and age that occasionally when you leave something unattended, it gets stolen; what I am surprised about is the naïveté in believing that you're living in a society where everyone is 100% honest.

I grew up in a small town where you never locked your door; heck I'm not

even sure we had keys to the back door! We did have car keys, but we left them in the car.

And the kids didn't come in when the streetlights came on; that's when the good hide-and-seek games started. We had a full-time cop, but his job was mainly checking store doors at night.

But let's be real! In the 21st century, anything left unattended for more than a minute is fair game! And to believe otherwise and not take precautions is not only foolish, it's darn right dangerous!

Why do you think everyone urges you to not let someone into the tower on your fob key unless you know them or why we have cameras watching us day and night?

You can't believe and act like it's 1940.



Malibu East Condominium

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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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