



# IN THE PINK

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The Newsletter of the Edgewater Beach Apartments

JUNE 2015

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Valued Shareholders:

My name is Salvatore Bondi - President of Edgewater Beach Apartments Corporation ("EBAC"). I have had the pleasure of being involved with EBAC's executive officer team since 2014 when I became a member of the Board of Directors ("BODs"). Over the past year, I have taken on increasing responsibilities serving in the capacities of Assistant Treasurer, and several committees.

As part of the 2015/2016 agenda, the BODs have set clear expectations that, in part include: 1) reviewing and addressing our current infrastructure plumbing, 2) accessing whether our current governing document provides the best legal structure and operation for our community, and 3) renovating our common areas as led by the Aesthetics Committee. It's a very exciting time for EBAC, BODs and Shareholders!

I would like to thank Bill Johnson, the former President of EBAC, for his hard work and dedication. Bill, alongside dkCondo (EBAC's Management Company) were instrumental in leading EBAC in our much needed Reserve Study and overseeing the city-mandated Life Safety Evaluation project that was completed prior to its 12/31/2014 deadline. In fact, EBA was one of a very few buildings in its Sheridan Road corridor to pass the city's LSE requirements. The next time you stop by the Management Office and/or see Bill, please extend your gratitude and appreciation for all they've done and do for EBAC.

As you know, on May 5, we elected the following Directors: Howell Browne, Melanie Dreher, Karen Lehman, Eric Okeson, and Daniel Simon. Please give them a warm welcome, along with a huge "thank you" for volunteering to serve EBAC. It's been my experience over the years that our BODs are highly dedicated and committed to fulfilling their respective duties and responsibilities.

I'd also like to highlight the five outgoing Directors: Valentina Halvorsen, Sue Jungers, Ruth Kurczewski, Dr. Bill Lawrence, and Allan Ryan. During their respective terms, they served EBAC well, with great pride and persuasive conviction. Thank you.

EBAC continues to have a vibrant and committed BODs and Management team to execute a sound strategic plan to manage our community.

Thank you for your continued support and confidence as we work through another year of progress and positive change.

Best wishes,

*Salvatore Bondi*

## FROM MANAGEMENT

Dear EBAC Shareholder/Resident:

On behalf of dkCondo and the entire EBAC staff, I join Sal Bondi in thanking the out-going five Directors whose terms ended this year and welcoming the five newly elected Directors.

Chicago is beautiful throughout the year, but now we revel in glorious blooms and warmer weather. EBAC's unique and spectacular garden provides a delightful change of pace to enjoy socializing with your neighbors or a peaceful solo respite.

Everyone contributes to a vibrant and harmonious community. As required by EBAC rules, after enjoying the garden and grill area, please return the garden tables & chairs to the original locations should you move them. Glassware and other breakables are not permitted in the garden to ensure everyone's safety. We request you use Service Elevator #2 to transport food and beverages to the garden, and diligently cleanup after using the grills as a courtesy to your neighbors and to reduce pests and rodents. As you know rodents are, increasingly, a serious problem in the City, and while we are working with the City to reduce the rodent population, we need your help also.

Along similar lines, smoking is permitted only within your apartment or in two designated common areas only: the small NW garden section and the far SW garden area. Smokers are required to ensure that smoke from their apartments does not permeate common areas or adjacent apartments and must use air filters or other means to eliminate odors. Smoking on the fire escape is never permitted.

EBAC garden plots have been assigned, but we have a just a few left if anyone is interested. Please let Robin know if you would like your name placed on the list and she'll coordinate with the Garden Committee.

Enjoy your Summer!

*Katharine Rousseve* dkCondo, Agent

## NEWS FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Save the date for the annual EBA Garden Party to be held this year on July 26th. Details to follow

*Dan Stanzel*

## NEW SHAREHOLDERS

Steven Van Pelt	617
Marilyn H. Clark	1809
Diane M. Blumensaadt	404
Robert M. Kruse	409
Marilyn J. Halperin	512

*Rosemarie Craig*



## A SHOUT OUT TO:

EBAC Shareholders: Thank you for participating in the annual Board of Directors election; shareholder turnout was one of the highest (over 60 percent) EBAC has seen in recent history!

*Salvatore Bondi*

## REMEMBERING THE EBA GARAGE



Robert Brown, age 84, parked cars for the Edgewater Beach Hotel in 1951. He learned about the job through a friend who already worked here. While the hotel had its own parking garage and surface lot, these would fill to capacity on busy nights. The valet staff were directed to park overflow cars in the EBA building's garage, the same garage we use today. "Paul Whiteman or Guy Lombardo would play at the hotel and attract crowds."

Because the EBA garage was further away than the hotel's, it took longer to retrieve a car from there than from the hotel lot. "I'd run along the boardwalk to save time. Sometimes I'd have trouble finding the car in the garage. After exiting the garage, I'd drive south on Sheridan Rd. to the hotel. The car's owner couldn't understand why I took so long or why his car was coming from that direction."

Valets wore a uniform jacket. "We parked the nicer cars of the day: Lincolns, LaSalles, Buicks, Packards, Cadillacs, and DeSotos. A good tip was one or two dollars."

*Larry Lesperance*

## **RESOURCES IN EDGEWATER YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE BROADWAY ARMORY**

You've probably passed by it a million times, but have you ever stopped to check it out? It's huge--has space for five gymnasias and much, much more. And it offers an amazing array of activities for all ages.

The Broadway Armory at 5917 N. Broadway is the Chicago Park District's largest indoor facility. Originally built as an ice rink in 1916, it was modified by the state of Illinois as an armory by the end of WWI. The Illinois National Guard used it as a drilling and training facility, but in the 1970's Edgewater Community Council began advocating for its use as a community center. In 1979 the Chicago Park District signed a 25 year lease for use of a portion of the structure, and in 1998 they bought the facility when the Armory was no longer needed for military purposes.

The place is jumping from early morning to late evening. There are a variety of classes and sports activities for toddlers through seniors, including dance, art, photography, cooking, self-defense, jewelry making, wellness and sports. There is a nominal fee for most classes, though most of the classes for seniors are available at no cost. You can check out the programs at <http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks/Broadway-Armory-Park/> or stop by any time. There is a parking lot adjacent to the building. Take some time to check it out.

*Paula Baron*



## **Calling All Treasure Hunters**

EBA's Annual Street Market will be held June 6th, on the street in front of the building.

The market was started in June, 2008 by four EBA residents: Marilyn Gehant, Mercy Gilpatric, Mary Solt and Pat Anderson. The event has grown and become a fun and anticipated event in the spring. That first Market Day, 30 tables were rented!

This year, as last, we will join 6 Block Clubs in the Edgewater community in a neighborhood area outdoor sale celebrating 21 years of sidewalk sales.

Join us this year to see what treasures you can sell and find !

*Pat Anderson*

## **INTERVIEW WITH DOM**

I'm convinced he has eyes in the back of his head. I barely enter the garage and he is running to get my car. We call him Dom, but his full name is Ramon Catbagan. He started here at EBA in 1995 as a doorman but moved to the garage two years later when they needed new personnel there. Bernard was the garage

supervisor then. When Neal left last year, Dom was asked to become the supervisor.

“Old people especially loved me when I was working as doorman because I always helped them carry their packages and helped with other things. And they got to know me. But now all those old people are gone,” said Dom.

When he started in the garage Bernard taught him the basics, but Dom says he mostly learned by himself. “To learn here is not easy,” Dom told me. “You have to familiarize yourself with the people and with their cars. Of course you have to deal very politely with people; that’s most important. You need to know their schedules so you can have their cars nearby. My shift is 3-11 p.m., but I know people who are going out in the morning so I pull their cars up to the front so that they will be ready for the morning. I try to ask people when they are coming back. It takes time to learn the system.

We used to have two people per shift, but now we mostly only have one per shift. Sometimes when there are big parties I have to ask our manager, Katherine R., for more help. Summer time often gets busier because there are more parties. It helps if residents notify me or the office so we are prepared.”

Since Dom can’t be here 24/7, I wondered how he manages to supervise the other shifts. He told me that he usually comes in early and leaves instructions for the other shifts. He tells them when to move cars and reminds them to use the big floor-cleaning machine if they are not busy. (That machine was bought a few years ago when the Lieberman group was managing EBA)

Dom and his wife came to the U.S. from the Philippines in 1993. He had been in the Philippine military and was a “Marcos loyalist”, but when Marcos was ousted in 1986, Dom left the military and worked as a correctional officer. (Ferdinand Marcos was president from 1966 - 1986. He was forced out in 1986 after the “Yellow Revolution,” a three year campaign of civil disobedience to overthrow the Marcos regime. Even though the regime had become increasingly authoritarian and corrupt, the U.S. continued to support Marcos because he said he fought the communists. However, in 1986, the pressure was too great, and Marcos went into exile in Hawaii.)

When Dom’s wife got a job as a nurse in the U.S., they decided to emigrate. They settled in Chicago, and fourteen years ago they bought a house on the southwest side of Chicago. They liked it because it was near to good schools for their three boys. All three of his sons served six years in the U.S. military.

When Dom retires, he plans to return to Manila, Philippines where he has an apartment. His mother and other family members still live in the Philippines. Meanwhile, gardening is his hobby. Recently, someone from the building gave him some tulip bulbs. By the time you read this they’ll have all bloomed. Dom raises lots of Asian vegetables, tomatoes, okra, Asian egg plant, okra, bitter melon and string beans. He’s the chef in the house. Some of his favorite dishes are penakbet, which is a Filipino dish with vegetables and pork and shrimp, and pepuzyo, which uses Asian rice noodles, vegetables, soy sauce and vinegar. You can see pictures of these dishes on the internet. Sounds yummy!

*Paula Baron*

## **EBA CELEBRATES NATIONAL POETRY MONTH**

On the afternoon and evening of April 19th a wildly successful Poetry Reading Event was held in the EBA Cafe. Fourteen shareholders shared their insights and read their favorite poems in recognition of National Poetry month. Angela Just conceived the event and worked tirelessly to bring the project to successful fruition. Marci and Dan Stanzel were swept up in her enthusiasm and had a delightful time assisting. Management and staff were extremely supportive of the event, Zung Dao opened the Cafe for the evening and Beth Tenney provided the poetry readers with boutonnières from Anna Held Florist.

Approximately sixty shareholders paid rapt attention to the readings. Many stayed to enjoy the fine food and drink that ended the evening. Thanks to all who attended and especially to those who shared their thoughts and readings.

*Dan Stanzel*

## FOOD CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Noreen Tobin, a longtime resident and CARE FOR REAL supporter wants everyone to know that she recently delivered a large assortment of food which had been placed in the tubs in the basement for CARE FOR REAL. "They are so grateful for all food contributions. They wanted us to let everyone know how great the need is, and how much our efforts are appreciated."



Next month Care for Real is participating in Greater Chicago Food Depository's (GCFD) 30th Annual Hunger Walk. Every year supporters of Care for Real can sign up to walk the 5k, which helps raise funds to be used for food purchases throughout the year. The walk takes place on Saturday, June 20th at Soldier Field. Registration for the day starts at 7:00 AM with the walk beginning at 8:30 AM.

If you'd like to join, you can sign up as an individual or join Care for Real's team. Each person that walks for Care for Real earns us a \$12 credit for food from GCFD. You can also raise additional money by getting pledges for walking. If you can't make it to the walk you can donate online today. For more information, visit <http://careforreal.org/get-involved/hunger-walks/>.

*Eleanor Odden*

### Update on the EBA Garden

The Garden Committee and the EBA gardeners, Milton and Raphael, have been working hard to get our lovely garden ready for our use this summer. You will notice the following improvements that have been made since last year.

A new ramp has been built immediately south of the gazebo to provide more convenient access to the upper garden and the gazebo. It may be used to bring a cart of picnic supplies into the

gazebo, for handicapped access, and as a path between the playground and the shed. Parents of young children are asked to tell them that bicycles, tricycles, and skateboards may not be used in either the gazebo or on the ramp.

A second change is the relocation of the common herb garden from the southwest corner to an area in front of the garage wall at the north end of the garden. The herbs are for everyone's use. We are asked to be considerate of others and to cut herbs such as chive at the bottom rather than snipping a bunch off the top.

Just outside the east garden door there are two raised gardens that are being given a trial run. These have been assigned to two shareholders who are physically unable to work a regular garden. If these prove to be a success, we plan to order a few more next year.

And then there is the wonderful revamped Bocce Court. More information about its use is provided on the last page.

A reminder about smoking: the garden is a smoke-free area except for two designated spots, both of which are equipped with a small table and chairs, plus a receptacle. One is in the northwest corner just next to the rose garden and is for cigarette smoking only. The other, where pipes and cigars may also be smoked, is at the far southwest corner of the garden, beyond the south garage driveway.

The Garden Committee also plans to host another herb-tasting event mid-summer.

*Judith Armbruster*  
*Chair, Garden Committee*

### Recycling/Green Committee

Composting and recycling are certainly not glamorous subjects. When I first encountered them upon moving into EBA I was surprised to find that the Recycling/Green committee was one of the more active committees in the building and have since made neighbors into friends through my participation on the committee.

Next, despite the camaraderie I found on the committee, I was initially somewhat frustrated by the fact that there were so many "how" questions

which few knew the answers too. How do I recycle old photographs? How do I recycle old cookie pans? Etc., etc., etc. Plus, some items that I thought were acceptable to charities turn out to no longer possible. Books, hardback and paperback on all topics, while no longer accepted by many libraries are still accepted by Open Books <http://www.open-books.org/> and also [www.donatebooks.org](http://www.donatebooks.org). And, did you know that paperback books may be included in single stream re-cycling?

However, while recycling still poses many challenges, it is still worthwhile even if you live alone and cook only a few meals a week. By conscientiously cleaning and drying all possible, "single stream" items and by composting all vegetable waste, it is possible to reduce remaining waste considerably and in the process ease one's conscience while watching feature films of toxic plastic ingested by fishes and birds in our oceans.

New members to the Recycling/Green committee are always welcome but if you do not have the time to commit, you should not be slow in asking committee members questions. We accept and enjoy the challenge!

*Michael Jackson*

## REMEMBRANCES

Dear Neighbors,

The following excerpt is taken from a letter home from WWII, dated Jan, 6, 1945. The letter was written by my father to his parents back home in Chicago. He served as a Technical Sargent in the US Army. Dad was part of a team installing communication equipment on Army Bases in Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Curacao, St. Lucia and the Galapagos. When the team had down time, Dad would tour these areas and write back home describing what he saw and heard...Enjoy...

*Republic of Panama. 6 Jan 45*

*Dear Folks,*

*When we first arrived at this base we were under the impression that we were to be here for some time. That led me to write giving you this as my address, but after meeting some of the mob here*

*we found out were we were going...Incidentally we're leaving sooner than expected. A special plane will be thru Monday and we'll be on it heading toward Guatemala.*

*The trip into town last nite was quite an experience. We saw most of Panama City and some of the surrounding towns along with various sections of the Zone. Here's how it's laid out. Five miles either side of the canal is considered the Canal Zone & it is governed by the U.S. The rest of the area belongs to the Rep. of Panama from whom we lease the zone area. Panama City is part of the Rep but most of the other towns & sections on the outskirts of the city are in the zone. They are the cleaner of the the two & also much better at the way around. All their food is shipped in from the states. Their homes are much more substantial & the grounds surrounding them are almost beautiful. The people living there are all employed by the states & do most of the work on the canal itself.*

*Panama City is the capital of the Rep. and looks the same as most of the towns in the area, narrow one-way streets, balconies on all the homes, office buildings and many women on the prowl for prospective customers. They have them in all sizes, shapes & colors.*

*We stopped in one or two of the nite clubs which put on a second-rate show, and also at three of the so-called gardens – the gardens were originally built by three separate breweries years ago to sell their product, but recently the breweries have joined and now the gardens are run by private parties. All are large outdoor dancing places and very nice – on the order of the Edgewater but not quite as classy.*

(This excerpt was part of a 5 page letter.)

*Karen Goldberg*

Newsletter Committee: Karen Clausen, Editor; Kathy Anderson, Paula Baron, Rosemarie Craig, Joe Cunniff, Bill Harmon, Michael Jackson, Larry Lesperance, Eleanor Odden, Daniel Stanzel.
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