

President's Report

At the October 16th Board Meeting, the Board unanimously approved sending the proposed 2015 budget to owners. The typical owners' meeting for discussion of the budget will take place as usual at 6:30 pm immediately before the regular November 20th board meeting when the new budget will be adopted. However, this year we will also be holding an owners' town hall meeting on **Wednesday, November 12 at 7 pm** where details of the 2015 budget will be explained and questions will be answered.

This budget is the result of many months of careful assessment of the critical needs of our 52 year old structure by our Buildings and Grounds Committee who then worked with the Budget Committee on a plan to meet these critical needs. Our Property Manager, Bill O'Leary, worked with the committees throughout these long processes. Many owners were involved in drafting the budget that was unanimously approved to be recommended to the Board for distribution to owners. The Board then unanimously approved its distribution to owners. The most important objective of all those involved in the budget process is the careful, reasonable and responsible care of Marina Towers. All of those involved with this budget take their responsibility very seriously and are passionate in their desire to properly care for Marina Towers. We owe our thanks to all of the members of the both the Budget and the Buildings and Grounds committees and to Bill O'Leary for the many hours of work they devoted.

The Board also approved the following at the October meeting:

- Holiday Party to be held on December 15th. The plan is similar to last year's party which was a huge success and was also a much reduced cost from previous years.
- 2014 refuse reimbursement from the City of Chicago.
- Expenditures related to Life Safety Ordinance requirements, exterior facade inspection, west tower plaza doors replacement and roof repairs.
- Payment to Thompson Coburn for their legal services in obtaining a reduction in our real estate taxes. The Association had retained this firm when our real estate assessed values for 2013 were greatly increased, resulting in a greatly increased tax bill for each condominium unit. This firm was successful in obtaining a total tax reduction of \$227,071.25. This reduced each owner's property tax bill by an average of \$253.43 per unit.

Marina City is among ten of Chicago's most iconic buildings that are featured on the Chicago Architecture Foundation's newly launched Skyline Stories, a digital showcase of Chicago's most iconic buildings. There are four short video clips on Marina City. These wonderful videos were produced this year and have just been released. The videos featured answer question such as: Have you ever looked up at a building and thought, how was that designed? What was the architect thinking? Or why was it built in Chicago? The answer to these questions and many more are revealed in the stories presented on Chicago Architecture Foundation's Skyline Stories. To watch the videos, just type the following website into your favorite internet browser.

Website: <http://skylinestories.architecture.org>

We look forward to a productive and informative owners town hall meeting on November 12! Hope to see you there!

Ellen Chessick

Treasurer's Report

As of the end of September, MTCA had \$2,381,000 in reserve accounts. As invoices for various Life Safety projects are paid, reserves are expected to end the year at \$2,100,000.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

The Buildings and Grounds Committee has finally worked out the last details for the bids on the air conditioner replacements. We sent our requirements to nine companies around Chicago to give us prices on installing the new units. By this time next month we will have several bids to choose from and hopefully we will have a contractor on board. The work will take place over the winter. Our requirements for all the bidders were that the work be completed by the end of February so that we have plenty of time to make sure the air conditioners are up and running by the time hot weather arrives again.

Liaison Committee

The committee met on October 7th and discussed the success of the Flu Clinic (see report below) and the pending opening of the new grocery store. A viable and thriving grocer is vital to the health of Marina City and is of substantial benefit to the residents of the complex. That being said, the committee has invited the owner of the grocery store to our next meeting which will be held at 2PM on November 4th in the "old" meeting room next to the office.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Liaison Committee will be the first Tuesday of February, 2015

Safety and Security Committee

We had extra security on site for the Great Chicago Fire Fest recently and there no incidents reported.

With the Wallenda Event on Sun Nov 2nd we will have additional security on duty in the towers. Along with our security, Chicago PD will also be on site, as will private security supplied by Wallenda's own group. Security will be tight in the towers themselves, and on the surrounding streets. As we get closer to the actual event, look for notices posted by our office, concerning, our plaza closure, our parking garage closure, and State and Dearborn Streets and Bridges closure.

We strongly urge residents to use Guest List Forms on that day, if they are expecting guests.



Social Committee

We met on October 21st. We finalized plans for the December 15th holiday party at Dick's Last Resort. The party will be from 6-9PM. Due to the popularity of the food selections at last year's event we will have the same best of Dick's this year, doubling up on the buffets. There will be a \$5 per person ticket fee with a one guest limit. With each ticket two drink tickets (draft beer, wine and well cocktails) will be provided when entering the room. Look for further details and sign up information posted by early November. There will a 300 person limit like last year.

On October 14th we showed the popular documentary "Finding Vivian Maier". Looking forward to Nik Wallenda's walk, on October 28th we plan to show "Man on Wire" (2008) on Philippe Petit's daring, but illegal, tight rope walk between New York City's World Trade Center's twin towers in 1974. On December 9th see "Medium Cool". Haskell Wexler's 1969 classic drama shot at and around the 1968 Chicago Democratic National Convention. See both in the 20th floor east tower meeting room!

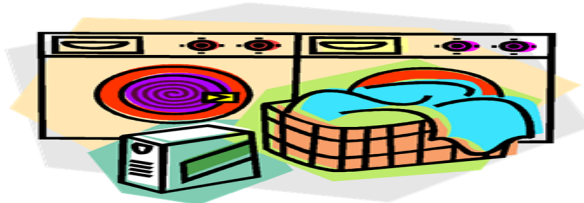
"Punkinpalooza" October 30th 6-9PM in the 20th floor meeting room. For this pumpkin carving all ages event everything is provided-costumes welcome and Halloween candy! Thanks to Art Club's Ken Schadt for spearheading this event. Art club met October 27th and will meet again November 24th. Our next Social Committee meeting will be November 18th.

Flu Clinic

This years flu clinic was a huge success, as there was a 287% increase in shots given versus last year. 49% of the shots were of the high dosage variety, recommend for people 65 and older. Marita Figueras, the head pharmacist at CVS on West Kinzie administered the shots. Having the flu clinic in a central location and advance planning and advertising contributed to the huge success of this years program.

We thank Bob MacAlpine, General Manager of the CVS Store for contributing his time at our Flu Clinic. He greeted each person as they came into the meeting room and explained the procedure with regard to the necessary paperwork. After each person received their flu shot, gifts were handed out including a key chain, hand sanitizer and body lotion. CVS also put out a generous display of cookies along with lemonade and apple juice for the residents to enjoy.

Having the flu clinic scheduled on the first Saturday in October with the hours of 12:00 - 2:00PM worked well for all parties and it is recommended that this become an annual event.



Laundry Rooms

The laundry rooms in both towers were updated the week of Oct 12th. New, state of the art VTM machines (to add value to your laundry card) have been added and most of the front loading washing machines have been raised to a level more convenient to residents. In addition, a bank of the resident preferred top loading washing machines has been installed along the window line.

Important numbers

Skyscraper Live, The Nik Wallenda Event to be held on November 2nd, can be viewed on The Discovery Station on channel 661 for HD and on channel 335 for SD.

Did you know channel 195 is our our house information channel? One of the items currently being shown is an interview with Nik Wallenda. Channel 196 is a view of the lobby.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20TH, 2014
20TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM IN THE EAST TOWER**

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