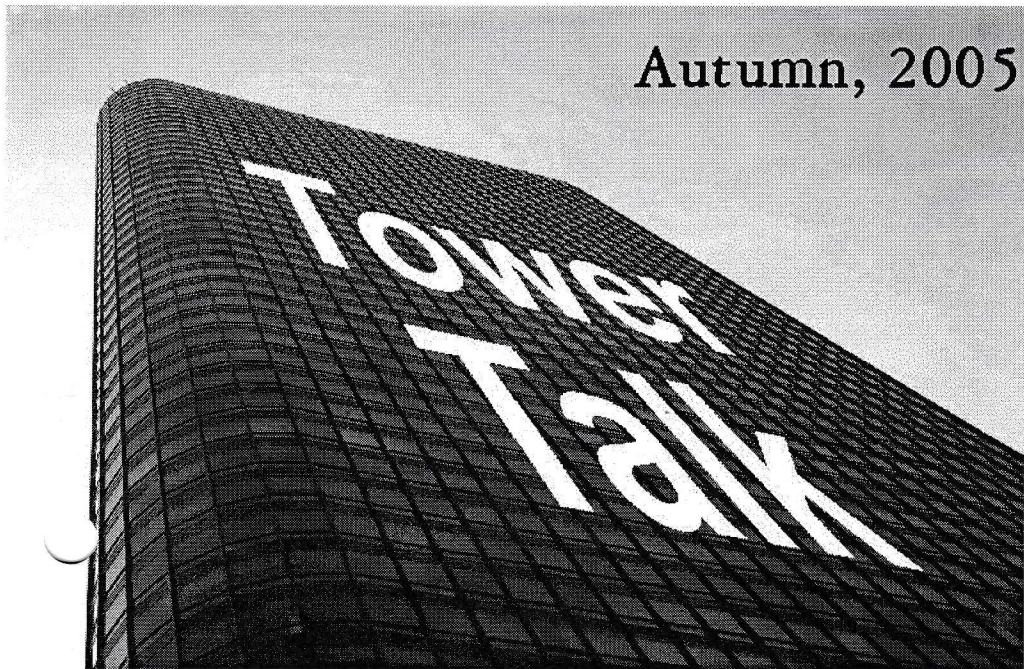


Autumn, 2005



#### **ASK PARK TOWER!**

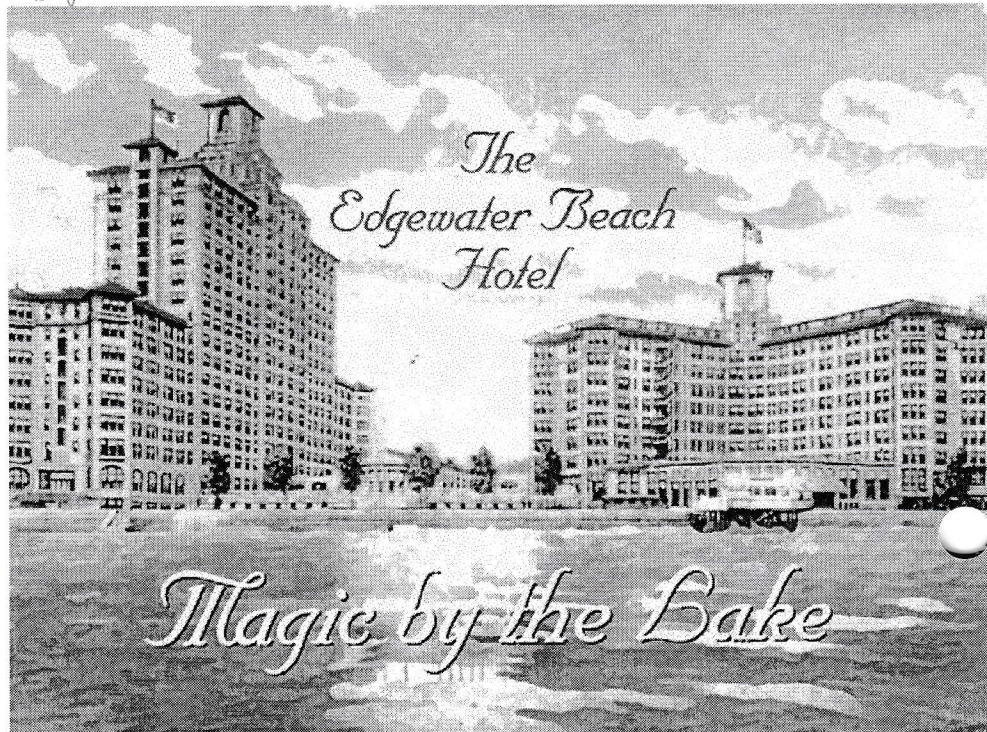
A reader asks: *Why don't we have barbecue grills with our beautiful gardens on the 2nd floor? Our lucky neighbors at 5445 and 5455 have gas grills? Why don't we here at 5415?*

Originally when the deck opened there was no food allowed on the deck at all. A while later, the Board relaxed that rule. When the Board last considered installing grills for resident use, the issues were: 1) smoke bothering residents of units. This has always been the biggest issue. 2) how to clean the deck covering should there be grease spills. 3) cleanup- garbage left on the deck, grills not cleaned for the next user. 4) danger of fire on the deck; there are many wooden items there that could burn. On the basis of these issues, it was decided not to install grills for residential use.

Do you have a question about the building you've always wanted answered? Policies, history, trivia? We'd like the opportunity to give you an answer. Simply send an email with the subject "Ask Park Tower" to [Tower\\_Talk@yahoo.com](mailto:Tower_Talk@yahoo.com); we will take one question each issue and find the answers for you, publishing them in the newsletter.

If you don't have handy email access, post your question in the suggestion box. Please add the heading "Ask Park Tower" so it gets to us.

By M.W.S.



### A BIT OF HISTORY!

There are records (both in terms of historical records and old 33RPM vinyl) of the many Big Bands that played here at the old Edgewater Beach Hotel: Guy Lombardo, Glen Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Paul Whiteman. There was a remote radio pickup on station WEBH (W-Edgewater Beach Hotel).

There were big band hotels throughout Chicago, including Hyde Park, but the Edgewater Beach was the only hotel to have an el station named for it (presently the Berwyn stop). The Breakers, our neighbor to the south, likes to say that they are the original site of the hotel, but that isn't quite so. The North building (where we are) was constructed in 1916 by Marshall and Fox; the larger South building (on the Breakers site), in 1924. Ben Marshall was somewhat flamboyant in his tastes, which accounts for the pink stucco; he also did the Drake Hotel downtown.

Newcomers to the area say indignantly, "What do you mean, the Edgewater Beach Hotel 'used' to be? Isn't that the building on the corner of Sheridan and Bryn Mawr?" That building was originally the Edgewater Beach Apartments, part of the same complex and the same pink stucco, which was constructed in 1928; it is on the National Register of Historic Places. While

the nation was heading for a fall the next year (there is a famous story of the five prominent businessmen who met at the hotel in 1925 and all died penniless five years later), the Edgewater Beach Hotel survived and flourished; perhaps its gaiety gave hope during the thirties and the war years.

Even throughout the 40's, the Edgewater Beach Hotel was a special place, an event for honeymooners and families looking for a special night on the town. But the time eventually came when the Big Bands abdicated to the cabarets and, moreover, huge hotels could not support TV wiring. And so it was farewell to the EBH by the end of 1969. Like Rome, though, the Edgewater Beach Hotel was a long time falling – three years. Some folks say that on rainy mornings you can still hear the ghosts of swing through the pipes in the walls.

### **A DRAINING EXPERIENCE**

It happens to all of us at some time or another. Your bathroom or kitchen sink, which had never given you any trouble at all, is suddenly clogged. What do you do?

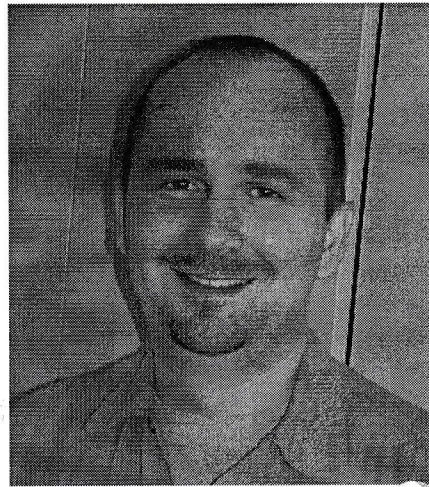
It would seem your first choice is to use some Drano, Liquid Plumber, or other clog-eating agent. Although these choices are fine in single family or low-rise homes, they can cause substantial trouble in a high-rise environment. Not only does the agent eat away at the pipes in your sink, but it also eats away at the pipes within the building. Any small corrosion causes these agents to stick in these areas and not easily flush away, further decaying the metal.

So, what other options do you have? Please call the management office and they will send up one of our staff to clear the clog. For most clogs, there is no charge. Take advantage of this free convenience and also help the building keep its pipes in great condition.

## PARK TOWER SUPERHEROES

### The Amazing Zlatko

There's far more to Zlatko Pavelic than meets the eye. Born in Bosnia, he was a soldier fighting against the Serbs. At the end of that period he was told to either leave the country or he would be killed. He fled to Germany under refugee status. Zlatko spent the next 7 years (1991-98) in Germany, living for periods in Berlin,

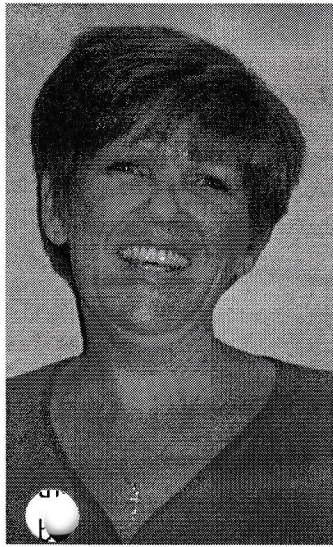


Munich, and Hamburg. It was a very difficult period in which he at first felt a bit lost, but he came to love the country. Unfortunately, his refugee status expired in 1998 and he was given a short list of countries into which he could emigrate. He chose the US primarily because his brother lives here in Chicago. He now speaks fluent German, Croatian, and English.

Moving to Chicago in 1998 was quite overwhelming since he was unused to cities of this size. In the time since, though, he's become quite comfortable here and is happy to call Chicago (and Park Tower) home. "When I first moved here and saw this building, I thought it would be great to work or live in a place like this. Now I'm doing both!" He is still in close contact with his parents living in Bosnia and is able to see them about once a year.

Zlatko has always enjoyed the process of taking something apart, seeing how it functions, and putting it back together, perhaps making improvements. As a kid he loved playing with mechanical and electrical toys. "I love seeing how things work. When you like to do something, it's not hard, it's fun. It's something you learn that not everyone can do and it makes me proud to know and understand how things work." Zlatko has done a lot of repair work in the building that we previously sent to outside companies, saving Park Tower a lot of money. (Thank you very much!)

What Zlatko misses most about Bosnia is the feeling of home, seeing the places where he grew up. But he definitely is very happy here in Chicago. He enjoys playing soccer and fishing along the Fox River or in Kankakee. He is a nature-lover and spends lots of time walking or biking in the Park or swimming in the Lake or our pool. He also has fun playing squash with friends.



### **Jodi Middleton: Wonder Woman**

Jodi Middleton, resident coordinator here at Park Tower, has a second life as a member of two motorcycle clubs, The City Heat and The American Knights. Both of these groups are Chicago Police Motorcycle Clubs; among their rules and bylaws is a regulation requiring 80% of the membership to be part of the Chicago Police Department. These groups (and Jodi in particular) work hard throughout the year for Miseracordia, a home for seriously

handicapped children. Among the work they do is an annual benefit at Cubby Bear. The proceeds from that function are partially spent on a wish list submitted by the nuns, but the majority is spent for holiday presents for the children. The club members dress as Santa and his elves and hand-deliver presents to the children, spending the day with the kids playing with new toys. Jodi was born to ride motorbikes. Born in Athens, GA, she was #12 of 13 children, including 7 brothers who all rode motorcycles. She was taught to ride dirt bikes at the ripe old age of 8 and rode on dirt tracks for the next 4 years. About that time, her father died; her mom, needing the help of her extended family to help raise her children, moved to Chicago.

Jodi was an avid dancer and gymnast for many years, winning a Latin Dance competition at the Aragon Ballroom 20 years ago. An unfortunate accident about 7 years ago shattered her left knee; she now has 2 pins and 12 wires holding it in place. Even with that impediment, she still enjoys Latin and 50's dancing, loving to tango, jitterbug, foxtrot, and waltz.

Jodi has 3 children of her own, 2 daughters (29 and 27) who are both entering nursing. She also has a son Gus, 22, who has worked here at Park Tower part-time as a doorman. He works fulltime as a doorman for the Palmolive Building. She has also been partnered for 3 years to her best friend Sean. "He is God's gift to me. He's great to my children."

Her favorite vacation so far was last year's trip to Sturgis, South Dakota. "If you ever lose your faith in God, take a ride through the Black Hills. It was magnificently beautiful."

## VALUABLE RESOURCES

We are all well aware of the record costs for energy in the coming year. More than ever before, conservation of energy and water should be on everyone's minds. Please think twice as you go about your day. Something as simple as turning off the tap as you brush your teeth, for instance, can save a lot. It may not seem like much, but consider a low estimate of 1/2 gallon of water running during that time. Multiply that by 60 times a month (twice a day), and now multiply that by 700 units. That's 21,000 gallons of water just flowing down the drain! And if your drains drip, call management; they will send someone to fix it free of charge.

Think about turning off lights when you leave the room. Think about whether you want to hit the mute button on your TV as you, say, get a phone call from relatives, or whether to just turn it off for a half hour.

Of course, one of the best ways to save energy is to install thermostats on your HVAC units. We have requested bids from various electrical firms and expect it will cost between \$200 and \$300 per HVAC unit. Thermostats will prevent you from waking up in an oven after turning on the heat before you go to bed, and will have your home at just the right temperature when you come home at the end of the day. They also save the building money in that we reduce spikes in usage.

If you are interested in installing thermostats in your unit, please email or otherwise contact the management office for more information. Thanks!

### A NEW PLACE TO HANG!

Perhaps you've noticed the chairs and tables purchased for the Mall area. Located around the skylight, this makes for a great place to meet with friends and share sandwiches or coffee from the Park Tower Market, particularly now that it's too cold to sit outside. Come on by, sit back with your friends, and say hello to neighbors walking by.

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A White Hen will be going into the building where the old Walgreens was located. A French bakery and cafe will be opening soon just west of the "EL" tracks on Bryn Mawr. Nookies finally got the OK from the office of the EPA so the permits are in the works for their restaurants on the east side of the "EL" on Bryn Mawr. The city is looking for someone to renovate the old Bryn Mawr theater.

Plans by the Park district to move the children's play ground to the meadows and replace that playground with a dog park has hit a snag. The condo on the corner of Sheridan and Bryn Mawr does not allow animals in their building and they are the only residency close to the dog park. It would be behind St. Andrews Church but very close to their residence. They oppose moving the playground to make room for the dogs. This will be continued.

If you have been to Clark street lately, you have seen the interesting beautification that has taken place. The street is lovely and very active. The plans are in the works to make Broadway as interesting and developed as Clark. But if another tanning saloon or nail finishing spa opens someone is going to go broke. How many can one neighborhood support?

The house at 5640 has been sold and the owner wants to build a high rise there. The Lake Front Protection Act should prevent him from going any higher.

## EMAIL ADDRESSES

You may now contact the Management Office and the Board of Directors by e-mail. We are unable to send documents or forms via e-mail at the present, but please use these additional means to contact the office staff or board:

Management Office: [ParkTowerCondo@DraperandKramer.com](mailto:ParkTowerCondo@DraperandKramer.com)

Board of Directors: [ParkTowerBoard@yahoo.com](mailto:ParkTowerBoard@yahoo.com)

**ADVERTISE IN TOWER TALK!**

Would you like your business to be noticed by over 700 families?  
Let us know. We are now offering advertising space in our quarterly  
newsletter.

A 2" x 3.5" (business card) space will cost \$25 per issue. A 1/2 page  
ad (5" x 4") costs \$50 per issue and a full page ad (5" x 8") costs \$100  
per issue. Please contact the management office with your print-  
ready ad and payment. The Board of Park Tower reserves the right  
to reject any advertisement which offends or that may be  
incompatible with the interests of the building.