Promenade Towers Quarterly

January 2014

### **Celebrating the Season**



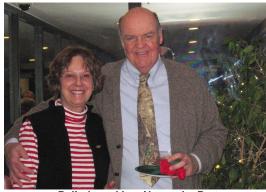
Sheila Mathieu, Tammy McDade & Carol Patterson

Grinch punch, warm apple cider, beer and wine! Promenade Towers residents and guests enjoyed these beverages and a wonderful assortment of appetizers at our annual holiday party in December. Social Committee chair Tammy McDade said, "I am thrilled that we had such a good turnout." She thanked the committee—Sheila and Dave Mathieu, Carol Patterson, Tom Leonhardt, Neila Smith and Howard Lowell—for pulling together another wonderful gathering.

The party was a good time for new owners to get acquainted with other owners and residents. Norma DeMaulo and Rick Dinsmore (in photo below) are currently renovating their condo; they



haven't moved in yet, but took the opportunity to meet their new neighbors. Andy and Leslie Glassberg, who live in St. Louis, did the same. Andy and Leslie were in town arranging for renovations on the condo they recently purchased.



Belinda and Len Ney at the Party

We all had fun sharing the evening with new residents and other neighbors. Belinda Ney said, "We are lucky to have so many truly nice people living under our roof—a special community." Will Gorham, a local realtor and former Portland city councilor, said, "Everyone was having a good time. It's just another example of what makes living at Prom Towers so great."

#### We Survived December's Big Storm

Portland got more than a foot of snow during the season's first big storm in December. Thank you to residents who moved their cars from the main entrance uncovered parking area to allow for plowing. All cars were moved by 6:00 p.m. as requested, and no cars had to be towed.

## **Property Management Contract Begins**

A new year brings a change in management at Promenade Towers. R & E Associates, Inc., a company that has transitioned other condos from self-management, will be managing our property. You will be pleased to know that we will continue to use our existing contractors and that Joe Coyne, who will now be an employee of R & E, will still be here as our part-time maintenance custodian.

As a self-managed property, much volunteer time was required in the office and for late-night and weekend calls. Now, R & E will take these calls. Bob Keegan, the Vice President of R & E, or one of their managers, Karen Goodwin, will be in our office two days a week. You will be notified of the days and hours. We encourage you to stop by to meet Bob and Karen.

# **Quarterly Profile**



John and Judith Rastl #155

"Do you work here?" When John Rastl walks out of the maintenance room or is sitting at the computer in the office, he sometimes is asked that question by new residents. Nope. John is a volunteer. He has managed and worked on several projects, including the Fitness Room and Community Room renovation projects and is on the landscaping committee. Along with other volunteers, he painted the stairwells, installed door closers and kick plates on unit doors and personally put all the numbers on the doors.

It's not surprising that people keep asking, "When are you going to write about John in the newsletter?" I can do this—after all, I've known him a long time. We first met in Saudi Arabia 37 years ago. I was at the U.S. Consulate, and John was an instructor pilot in the U.S. Air Force. He

was training Saudi pilots in the F-5 fighter jet (shown in photo at right). John was in the Air Force for 21 years and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Besides the F-5, he flew the F-4 and the A-10 during his career which also included staff jobs.



Two years after we

met, John and I got married in Phoenix by Judge Sandra Day O'Connor. We moved often and sold and bought a house every three years. When John retired in Tucson, he went to work for the Air National Guard Air Force Reserve Test Center where he was their Director of Tests. During the years John worked at the Test Center, we planned our retirement goals, which included a home with an ocean view in a location where we could walk to restaurants and shops. Another goal was to live in a secure building where we could lock up and leave when we wanted to get away. Most of all, we wanted to be near our grandchildren—Gabby, Max and Noelle who live in New Hampshire. We met these goals when we found our condo at Promenade Towers.

We moved here in 2004 and spent seven months renovating our condo. After the renovations, John was ready to volunteer and was elected to the Board of Directors and as Secretary of the Association. The other officers at that time, when the building façade project began, were President Jim Zafirson and Treasurer Karen Winslow. "The two-year project was a challenge for us and the rest of the Board," said John. "We all put in a lot of hours, especially Jim who managed the project and the renovations that followed."

John, who is in his third term on the Board and is the Treasurer of the Association, says, "It's the Board's responsibility to protect the owners' investments. We all work well together and care about maintaining and continually improving the common areas." John and I are thankful, not only for the strong Board of Directors, but for the many volunteers whose contributions help make Promenade Towers an exceptional community. We are happy to call this place our home.

## **Christmas Lights Around the Pool**



Yes, that's a view of the pool from our building!

## **Hello to New Neighbors**

Welcome to new residents: Antonia & Stephen Anderson, Helen Kokoszka, Helene Mishkin, and Rick Dinsmore & Norma DiMaulo