

# On the Prom

Fall Edition

Promenade Towers Quarterly

October 2014

## A Summer of Fun at Promenade Towers



**Sunday Afternoon Croquet Game**

Picnics and cookouts at the pool, swimming, sunbathing and lawn games were some of our popular summer pastimes at Promenade Towers. A new weekly activity organized by Mark Rockwood was Sunday afternoon croquet. That's Mark in the center in the above photo along with Vic LaPrade and Barbara Donahue.

We expected to play croquet this year at our third annual Lawn Party, but the game was rained out. That thunderstorm didn't stop the party, though. What do you call a lawn party without a lawn? Lots of fun! Fabulous! That's how partygoers in the Community Room described it. The room was packed with residents who shared food and drinks and an evening with old and new friends. In the words of social committee member Neila Smith, "No thunderstorm could stop us!"



There were many new residents at the party including Andrea Turley (shown in the above photo with social committee member and bartender Tom Leonhardt). Louise Backer said, "People

here are just so nice. It confirms that this is the right move for us." Louise and her husband, Nick Ciciretti, had just moved in.

Some longtime residents, like Howard Wilson, are only here in the summer. They appreciate the summer party and notice the changes and improvements that many of us take for granted. "The place looks good," said Howard. "It's the showplace of the Eastern Prom."

Summer residents Bob McCue and Arla Amara (in the photo below) spend their winters in Arizona. This summer Bob joined a group that meets each week in our library to play bridge, another new activity organized by the social committee.



We shared some good times this summer, and those of us who stick around can look forward to the other big party of the year, the annual Holiday Party in December. Oh, and those impromptu gatherings in the front lobby—wine by the fireplace on snowy winter nights.

### Help Wanted—Volunteer w/Green Thumb

For several years Gunnel Hansen has been planting colorful flowers in the pots by our front entrance in the spring and summer and replacing them with green arrangements for the winter. Gunnel will continue providing the arrangements through this winter, but by next spring we will need a volunteer to take her place. Or two volunteers; they could job-share the planting and care of the arrangements.

Give me (Judith Rastl) a call 207-332-8131 or email [jrastl5@gmail.com](mailto:jrastl5@gmail.com) if you have questions about this opportunity to get involved in our condo community.

## Quarterly Profile



**Megan Ladd #255**

Plan A for Megan Ladd when she bought her condo at Promenade Towers was to rent it out and not move here until she retired. Megan, a Maine native and Bates College graduate, works for the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy in Boston and owned a house there. Not long after she closed on the condo, though, she came here and stayed in it for a week. She said she fell in love with the place. “It’s a great building,” said Megan. “I talked to people I met in the elevators and halls. Everybody was so nice. And I love the great views!”

It was time for Plan B—she talked to her boss and he said, “Why not work from home and come down to Boston once a week?” The plan is ideal for Megan, a software developer. She put her house on the market and it sold in a week. “The rest is history,” she said. “Here I am!”

Megan takes the Amtrak Downeaster to Boston one day each week and says the luxury of working from home gives her the flexibility to also do volunteer work. On Fridays she helps out with lunch at Florence House, a place in Portland that provides housing for homeless women. “To give back to the community is important to me,” said Megan. “It makes me more aware of how fortunate I have been in my life.” While she was living in Massachusetts, she worked with youth groups through her church and in a soup kitchen.

Megan has lived here less than a year and already volunteers on our social committee. She likes being on the committee and says it’s a great group and a wonderful way to meet people.

The variety of restaurants, Portland Symphony, the Art Museum and First Friday Art Walk are some of the things Megan likes about Portland. “Everything is so close,” she says. She also enjoys running, walking and riding her bike on the trails. The bike storage area in our building is a plus for her. She spends time at the pool, works out in the fitness room three or four times a week, and she’s enthusiastic about Sunday afternoon croquet games on our lawn. In fact, her enthusiasm is one of the first things you notice about her.

Megan is beginning a project that many of us here have tackled—condo renovations. Her plans include new floors and doors and renovating her kitchen and bathrooms. What she’s most excited about is a walk-in closet. “I feel like a kid at Christmas!” she said. Umm, did I mention her enthusiasm? It’s contagious; hang around Megan for awhile and you’ll see. I’m glad she went with Plan B.

## New Bench Installed in Smoking Area



Here’s the new bench that was installed this summer in the designated smoking area outside the entrance to Building 2.

## Annual Meeting Held on September 10

Association members held their Annual Meeting on September 10 and re-elected Len Ney and John Rastl to the Board of Directors. Officers elected by the Board were President Jim Zafirson and Treasurer and Secretary John Rastl.

## Hello to New Neighbors

Welcome to new residents: Chris & Michelle Powers; Bryan Beck & Janet Springborn; Jordan Steinberg; and Amanda Ward