



CELEBRATE EVERY DAY ON THE MAGNIFICENT MILE





THE GREATER NORTH  
MICHIGAN AVENUE ASSOCIATION

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Ralph M. Weber

*Northwestern Memorial Hospital*

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*Law Offices of Howard Melton and Assoc.*

### Treasurer

David M. Quinnett

*Ad Compensation, Inc.*

### Legal Counsel

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*Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg, LLP*

### President and CEO

John S. Maxson

*GNMAA*

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



Nurturing a culture of continuous improvement is not a new concept, but is embraced by successful business and not-for-profit activity around the world today. It means constantly reassessing the needs of customers, working hard to meet these needs with ever increasing efficiency and effectiveness, and checking to ensure that intended outcomes are achieved.

I look ahead to 2008 wondering, on the one hand, how we are going to improve over the very exciting and successful year we just concluded. On the other hand, I am convinced "we've only just begun."

Our customers are GNMAA's nearly 750 member-businesses and you have expressed overwhelming support for many of our popular activities, events, and initiatives. Also, you have let us know about those aspects we need to improve.

GNMAA will be escalating its work to protect and enhance our area's physical environment, advocating for stronger city services and coordinating the aggregate business community's contribution to beautifying the streetscape. Also, we intend to continue with high-profile speakers at our Quarterly Membership Luncheons, pledging to feature personalities equally provocative as Terry Lundgren, Gordon Segal, and David Yurman. Program events like the annual meeting, gala, golf outing, cultural event, and others will be "cranked up a notch." We will continue to grow our membership by over 10% annually through even better recruitment and retention techniques. While marketing programs attracted many hundreds of thousands of customers last year, I am confident that our new champagne celebration in February, Tulip Days on The Magnificent Mile, Gardens of The Magnificent Mile, and The Magnificent Mile Lights Festival presented by Harris can drive even greater traffic to the benefit of our sponsors and member-businesses.

These are all volunteer driven activities that will challenge each of us to be more innovative. I have met numerous times with the staff and they are ready and able. Our volunteer leadership has the resolve to build GNMAA into an even more powerful organization for business development and community advocacy.

As I enter my second year as your chairman of the board I have come to appreciate the tremendous engagement of volunteers at every level of the organization. Thank you for all that you do and, looking ahead to 2008, I pledge to do my part to ensure that (quoting another familiar phrase), "the best is yet to come."

Sincerely,

Ralph M. Weber

GNMAA Chairman of the Board

*Vice President, Northwestern Memorial Hospital*

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## Cheers to February!

February marks a month of indulgence and celebration on The Magnificent Mile with the first annual "A Toast on The Magnificent Mile". The Greater North Michigan Avenue Association and Moët & Chandon along with participating hoteliers, retailers, restaurants and nightlife destinations are bringing luxury champagnes to the district.

The month-long celebration kicks off on Thursday, January 31st with a celebration toast at the Hard Rock Hotel Chicago. Events continue throughout the month, culminating on Leap Day, February 29th with a day of "free indulgence." Every Saturday night in February in Pioneer Court, 401 N. Michigan Avenue, the sky will be illuminated with an impressive fireworks display over the Chicago River that will send corks popping! Help us toast one of the great avenues of the world.

Visit [www.gnmaa.com](http://www.gnmaa.com) for information on how to participate.



### Join us for a kick-off celebration

**Thursday, January 31, 2008**  
**Hard Rock Hotel Chicago**  
**230 N. Michigan Avenue**

RSVP by Friday, January 25 at (312) 642-3570

**Join us for fireworks**  
**every Saturday evening at 6:30 p.m.**  
**and special Leap Day show on 2/29/08!**

Pioneer Court, 401 N. Michigan Avenue



## THANK YOU!

Thank you to the dedicated volunteers that helped make The Magnificent Mile Lights Festival presented by Harris a success! We had over 800 volunteers and committee members involved and it was the best year yet. From our Balloon Handlers to our Procession Volunteers everyone helped make this a safe, well organized and fun event.



The Greater North Michigan Avenue Association's Officers and Directors Cordially Invite you to the

# GNMAA Annual Meeting

Monday, February 11, 2008  
5:00 p.m. Registration  
5:30 p.m. Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Cocktail Reception

Museum of Contemporary Art  
220 East Chicago Avenue

*\*Please enter at the Pearson Street Entrance at the Education Center*

- Election and installation of Officers and Directors
- Presentation of Member Recognition Awards
- Fabulous Cocktail Reception by Wolfgang Puck Catering

Special opportunity to view the exhibit: **Gordon Matta-Clark: You are the Measure**  
MCA Exhibit will run February 2 – May 4, 2008

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Reservation/s @\$60 each (\$65 at the door) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member Reservation/s @\$70 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Wolfgang Puck  
catering

**Please list your guest(s) names below:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Return by Wednesday, February 6, 2008  
Fax: (312) 642-3826 E-mail: gnmaa@gnmaa.com Web: www.gnmaa.com  
Mail: GNMAA, 625 N. Michigan Avenue Suite 401, Chicago, IL 60611  
Questions? Call (312) 642-3570.  
Due to contract, cancellations after 2/06/07 and no-shows will be billed.

The Greater North Michigan Avenue Association

# 2008 Annual Gala

Hilton Chicago

Friday, May 9, 2008

*The Event of the Year!*



*The Inspiration:*

Adventure on the Avenues

*The Celebration:*

Hilton Chicago  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
6:30 p.m. Cocktails  
8:00 p.m. Dinner  
9:00 p.m. Dancing and Dessert

*The Elements:*

Black Tie  
Musical Entertainment by  
Ken Arlen Orchestra

PRESENTING SPONSOR



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

- \$6,000 Table**  
Table of ten in a premium location, corporate recognition in event program and ballroom, premium gift
- \$3,500 Table**  
Table of ten in a preferred location, corporate recognition in event program, event gift
- \$350 Tickets**  
One seat in the ballroom, corporate recognition in event program, event gift
- Check Enclosed**                       **Please Invoice**

Call Polly Olson, Program Director at (312) 344-2320 for more details. Fax this form to (312) 642-3826.

# The February Membership Connection

A networking event to welcome new and prospective GNMAA members



Graciously hosted by:



640 N. Wabash Street  
Thursday, February 28, 2008 • 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.



#### DID YOU KNOW...

- The Hotel Cass was named after Cass Street, which became Wabash in the early '30s.
- The hotel recently reopened after an extensive \$16 million renovation.
- The hotel offers complimentary wired and wireless internet access to all guests.

**MAKE CONNECTIONS**  
with fellow business leaders  
**WHILE ENJOYING**  
gourmet appetizers and cocktails  
**JOIN US**  
for food, fun and friends at  
**HOTEL CASS**  
**CHICAGO**

**Yes, I will attend The Membership Connection!**

I am a:

- Member (\$20)  
 New Member (Complimentary)  
 Prospective Member (Complimentary) **Referred by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please RSVP by Friday, February 22, 2008 via e-mail: klippert@gnmaa.com,  
phone: (312) 642-3570, or fax: (312) 642-3826

Due to contract, cancellations after 2/22/08 and no-shows will be billed.

# Member 2 Member (M2M)

## WHO'S NEW...NEWLY APPOINTED

**Gregor Andreewitch**, formerly of **The Drake Hotel**, was appointed to General Manager at the Conrad Tokyo. **Tom Thomas** was recently appointed to General Manager at **The Drake Hotel**.

## NEWS



Allen R. Joffe

For the second consecutive year, the Chicago Association of Realtors Commercial Forum has named **Allen R. Joffe** of **Baum Realty Group, LLC**, Broker of the Year for Tenant Representation.

Sofitel hotels, the luxury brand of Accor hotels, received several mentions in the annual Readers' Choice Awards, featured in this month's issue of Condé Nast Traveler. Among the nine Sofitels named, the **Sofitel Chicago Water Tower** was listed 64 among the Top 100 Mainland U.S. Hotels.

## EVENTS

**The Signature Room at the 95th** begins its 15th anniversary year by taking the chill off of winter temps with a red-hot charity event benefiting 12 local charities. On Wednesday, January 23rd, the "Table of Twelve" fundraiser brings together 12 organizations and their supporters to kick off the giving for the year-long "Charity of the Month" program. The program created by The Signature Room owners, Rick Roman and Nick Pyknis, has donated over \$520,000 to 172 organizations since its inception in 1993. Reservations accepted online at [www.signatureroom.com](http://www.signatureroom.com), or by calling 312-280-0472.

Pamper yourself with a relaxing spa escape from Laura Mercier at **Bloomingdales**. There is a \$75 pre-pay for the event, redeemable in Laura Mercier product. For more information or to book your appointment, please call 312.440.4518.

The Ultimate Bridal Event at **Macy's** will be held Saturday, January 26 at Macy's on State Street from 10 a.m.-2p.m. To RSVP for the event, please call 1-800-329-8667. For more information visit [macys.com/events](http://macys.com/events).

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

Member to Member (M2M) is YOUR opportunity to help get the word out to fellow members about your company news. Continue to keep GNMAA members informed of the happenings in our magnificent neighborhood! Send your press releases and photos to GNMAA at [gnmaa@gnmaa.com](mailto:gnmaa@gnmaa.com).

The following are examples of acceptable entries:

- ◆ Benefits/Free Events
- ◆ Expansion/remodel
- ◆ Business Announcements/Appointments
- ◆ New location, New Co. name
- ◆ Who's New
- ◆ Community Citation /Awards
- ◆ Member-2-Member Exclusive Offers

**Deadline for March is Tuesday, January 8, 2008.**

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**Angelique Art Gift Gallery**  
*Art Gallery*  
Jennifer Angelique Smith, Owner  
6 W. Maple Street  
(312) 484-3671  
[www.angeliqueartgiftgallery.com](http://www.angeliqueartgiftgallery.com)

**Big Blue Marble Properties**  
*Real Estate Firm*  
Debbie Maue, President & CEO  
515 Belden, #9  
(773) 572-6522  
[www.bigbluemarbleproperties.com](http://www.bigbluemarbleproperties.com)

**Burton Snowboards**  
*Snowboards, Apparel and Accessories*  
Candice Dupre, Store Manager  
56 E. Walton Street  
(312) 202-7900  
[www.burton.com](http://www.burton.com)

**Chatto Skincare and Salon**  
*Personal Care Products*  
Chatto Wright, President  
102 E. Oak Street  
(312) 640-0003  
[www.chatto.com](http://www.chatto.com)

**Gettys**  
*Architecture Firm*  
Michael F. Maurer, Vice  
President/Principal  
One E. Erie Street, Suite 400  
(312) 836-1111  
[www.gettys.com](http://www.gettys.com)

**Harry Winston**  
*Jewelry*  
Mary Baney, Operations Manager  
55 E. Oak Street  
(312) 705-1820  
[www.harrywinston.com](http://www.harrywinston.com)

**Perfect Pear Gallery**  
*Art Gallery*  
Anita Jerman, Owner – President  
712 N. State Street  
(312) 255-1750  
[www.perfectpeargallery.com](http://www.perfectpeargallery.com)

**Retail Improv**  
*Retail Sales Management*  
Dan Mann  
157 Green Ridge Road  
Weaverville, NC 28787  
[www.retailimprov.net](http://www.retailimprov.net)

**T-Mobile USA, Inc.**  
*Cell Phones and Electronics*  
Nem Bulic, Retail Store Manager  
40 E. Ontario Street  
(312) 787-3216  
[www.t-mobile.com](http://www.t-mobile.com)

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

## A TOAST ON THE MAGNIFICENT MILE

**February, 2008**

Fireworks every Saturday at the Michigan Avenue Bridge  
Submit your champagne-themed events or offers!

**January 31, 2008**

Champagne Celebration  
**Hard Rock Hotel Chicago**  
230 North Michigan Avenue

## ANNUAL MEETING

**February 11, 2008**

5:00 p.m.– 8:00 p.m.  
**Museum of Contemporary Art**  
Tickets: \$60.00

## MEMBERSHIP CONNECTION

**February 28, 2008**

5:00 p.m.– 7:00 p.m.  
**Hotel Cass**  
640 North Wabash Street  
Tickets: \$20.00

## QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

**March 20, 2008**

**The Drake Hotel**  
140 East Walton Place  
Tickets: \$55.00

## GNMAA GALA

**May 9, 2008**

6:30 p.m. — Cocktails  
8:00 p.m. — Dinner  
9:00 p.m. — Dancing and Dessert  
**Hilton Chicago**  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
*Invitation on page five*



To RSVP, visit [www.gnmaa.com](http://www.gnmaa.com) or call (312) 642-3570

THE GREATER NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE ASSOCIATION

## MEMBER MONTHLY

The Greater North Michigan Avenue Association  
625 North Michigan Avenue  
Suite 401  
Chicago, IL 60611



[www.GNMAA.com](http://www.GNMAA.com)