

# Here's Chicago!

by Catherine Koenig

Whenever Harry and I attended a convention we stayed an extra day or two for some sightseeing. This gave us an opportunity to get acquainted with various cities across the country. It occurs to me that some members who are planning to attend "Pipes Alive in '85" might want to do some exploring before or after the convention. As a native of Chicago, I can offer a few suggestions.

First, I would head for the "Magnificent Mile" which is on Michigan Avenue between Chicago Avenue and Oak Street. Hop on a bus in front of the Palmer House and get off at Chicago Avenue. This will bring you to the Old Water Tower. It is Chicago's most famous landmark and was one of the few buildings that survived the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. It has been restored and now serves as a Visitor Information Center. It is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pick up some literature and get any information you might want about the city.

Then walk across the street to the Water Tower Pumping Station, to see the dazzling multi-image program entitled "Here's Chicago." It's a good show that lasts about 45 minutes and touches all aspects of life in the city.

From there you can go next door to Water Tower Place. Take the glass-enclosed elevator up to the top level and then come down leisurely on the escalator. This will give you a chance to see all the interesting shops on each level. Also, you might want to have a

snack at one of the numerous restaurants. Kaplan's Deli serves good sandwiches, or if you're in the mood for a hamburger, there's the ever-present McDonald's.

If you enjoy browsing in a shop that's filled with unusual household items, cross the street to the Crate & Barrel.

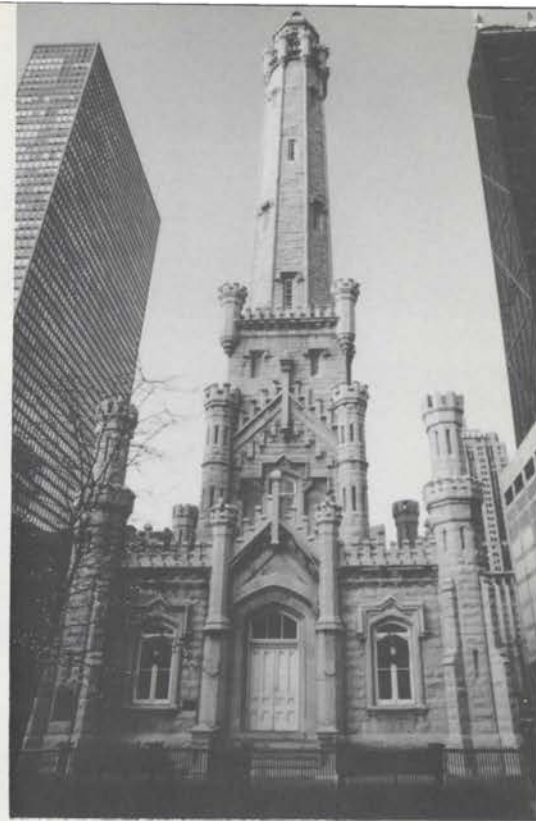
The Fourth Presbyterian Church is in the next block north. You may want to step inside and take a moment to rest and count your blessings.

If it's a clear day it might be fun to go up to the Observation Deck at the John Hancock Center. That's directly across from the church.

All of these places are on Michigan Avenue in the two blocks north of Chicago Avenue. When you get tired of walking you can get on a bus and ride back to the hotel to freshen up before dinner.

Where to eat? There are two restaurants near the hotel where hearty food is served with beer or wine: Miller's Pub and the Berghoff Restaurant. Farther away (by taxi), are the Wrigley Building Restaurant, Don Roth's Blackhawk on Pearson Street, and Armando's. If you like steak and ribs head for George Diamond's. The Cape Cod Room in the Drake Hotel is famous for seafood but it is rather expensive.

If time permits, plan to spend a few hours at the Museum of Science and Industry. Admission is free and there is much to see. For a nominal charge



The Water Tower, famous Chicago landmark.  
(Ron Schramm photo)

you can also visit the submarine and the coal mine. When you get tired of walking you can head for the cafeteria and have some refreshment.

Another interesting place to visit is the Art Institute on Michigan Avenue within walking distance from the hotel. There is an admission charge, but Tuesday is a free day. The garden restaurant is a pleasant spot for lunch and you can get to it without paying the general admission charge, if you enter the building from Columbus Avenue.

Other places of interest include the Cultural Center in the Chicago Public Library; the Chicago Board of Trade where trading can be viewed from the visitors balcony on the fifth floor; and the Merchandise Mart, the world's largest wholesale complex where tours are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sightseeing by boat is available from the docks under the Michigan Avenue bridge.

The CTA runs special culture bus routes on Sundays and holidays, to museums and other points of interest. Riders may get on and off several times for a single fare. Buses depart from the Art Institute on Michigan Avenue.

When you come to Chicago for "Pipes Alive in '85," why not stay an extra day or two and make the most of your vacation? □