

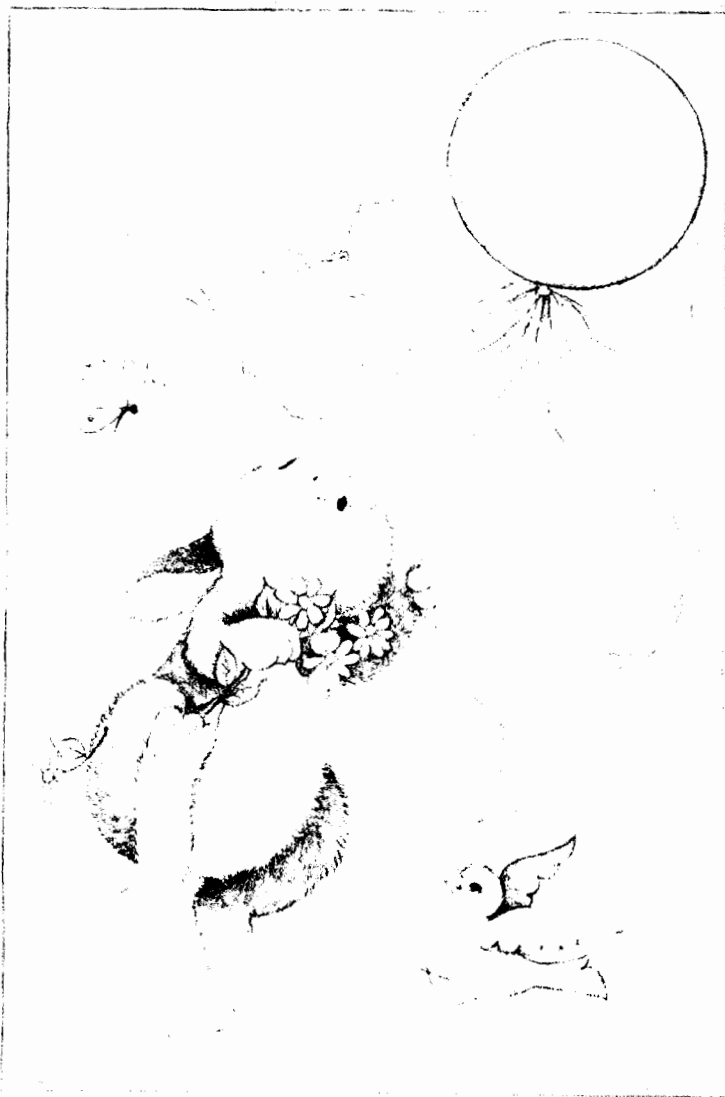


The *House Special*

Volume V

April 1985

Issue 4



Committee Communiqués

COMMUNITY NOTES

COMING COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM

Please set aside the night of April 18, to come to one or the other of the Skyline House Party Rooms to listen to the most well-known gentleman in our community. Ed Barstow will speak on tips for maintaining your apartment in the best possible condition. The presentation will begin at 8 p.m. Watch the bulletin boards for location.

AREA DEVELOPMENT

It has been reported that the new restaurant to replace the Skyline Dinery will be called Bailey's and that it will open early this spring. It is to be a 100-seat restaurant with cocktail lounge. The electronic games room will be gone . . . just one more fad which didn't last!

Building for the new Giant Gourmet will begin next month (according to a spokesman for the store). It is to be located in the same shopping center but at the opposite end from where it is now. The grand opening is tentatively set for November of this year. If the 'sister-store' in McLean is any example, we are all going to have to start doing our food shopping strictly by the lists in our hands, lest we be tempted by all the exotic delights on display!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There is absolutely no need to sit at home . . . when there is a cry from all sides for volunteers. As it used to be said about the army, "If you're warm, they'll take you!" Here are three agencies which have sent out the cry: "YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU."

1. Woodrow Wilson Library. Last month I mentioned that this branch was undergoing a face-lift. Right enough! I also spoke with the manager, Carolyn White, and she said volunteers are needed. Although there are certain projects for which help is needed on a one-time basis, on the whole a commitment of three hours a week is desired.

If you are good with children, for example, or are clever at making signs, contact Paul Allard, volunteer coordinator, at 820-8774.

2. Alexandria Retired Senior Volunteer Program or RSVP (catchy, isn't it). Elizabeth Anne Bolton has contacted our Association to make a plea for "members of the Experienced Generation" to give a few hours of their time to help others. The phone is 838-4840.

3. Our own Fairfax Voluntary Action Committee can use helpers . . .

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What's Up . . .

with whatever talents. Judy Helein (at 691-3460) is the person to contact.

SENIOR I.D. CARDS

A recent announcement in the "Golden Gazette" stated that as of March 1st the Senior I.D. Discount Program will issue I.D. cards from the new AAA location every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The address is 11212 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, Virginia (on Route 50 near Interstate 66). Cards will NO LONGER be issued from the Massey Bldg, as in the past. For information, call Pat Frix at 691-2185.

THANK YOU, GORDON FRANK!

By the time this issue of The HOUSE SPECIAL reaches the residents of Skyline House, Gordon Frank will no longer be serving on our Board of Directors. There are many residents who already know of the time and talent he has given to the affairs of our Association during all of the years he has lived here. However, for those of you who give only a passing thought to those who give freely of their efforts to make our community a pleasant place in which to live, pause one second and join the Community Relations Committee in saying, "Thank you, Gordon Frank!"

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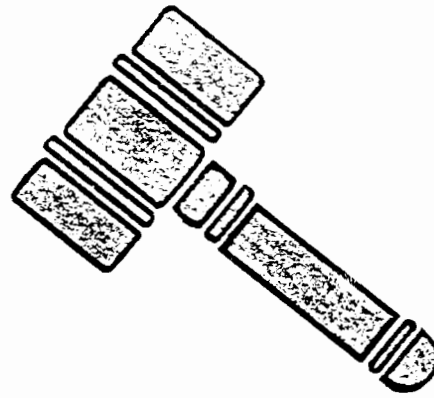
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COVENANTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Howie McClennan, Chairman



Present at our February 27, 1985 meeting were Chairman Howie McClennan, Board representative Gordon Frank, Helen Kumor, John and Marh Walsh, Elizabeth Grant, Rulph Huppert, Ross MacAskill and our faithful Secretary Deanna Hammond.

The Chairman announced that the Skyline House Board of Directors had accepted our recommendation for a new form for reporting violations of Rules and Regulations. We hope that with the operation of these new forms we can eliminate the continuing violations that are reported every month. At least now a file will be kept of the persons who do not cooperate in the operation of our home here at Skyline House.

In regard to violations, a long discussion took place with respect to speeding in the garage and in particular several near collisions in the garage, especially on the ramps. Suggestions were made that maybe speed bumps would slow down the speeders in the garage. It was pointed out that the Security Committee had received a letter requesting a staff member be in the garage during busy hours.

The violations for the month of January were as follows: trash in the hallways; noxious odors in the hallways; loud stereos; broken glass and cigarette butts falling from balconies; speeding in the garage; no parking passes and expired passes. Other complaints included: a broken window on a car parked outside; the fire alarm being pulled by a guest of a resident; a car vandalized while parked outside (lock and door handle broken);

soliciting in the building; screaming from balconies to cars parked outside; using passenger elevator for moving furniture on a Sunday.

It was stated that it would be unrealistic to expect a staff of three in the Management Office to inspire the community to observe the pages of rules and regulations, many of which represent the ideas of various groups and which differ from the views and life styles of others. However, it was agreed that steps must be taken soon to stop the ever-increasing violations. It was requested that the Chairman of the Covenants Committee dwell on this subject at the Annual Meeting and Elections of Officers in March.

Ross MacAskill then gave a report of the election and nomination committee, stating that everything was ready and that he had had no problem getting people to serve the night of the election; volunteers were also available to help with "Meet the Candidates" night. The Board of Directors accepted the recommendation of the Covenants Committee to handle the proxy votes so as to insure secret balloting.

The Chair announced that our Committee is highly pleased with the service rendered by our Board Representative Gordon Frank over the past three years. We want the record to show that his stewardship was of the highest.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday,
April 24, 7:30 p.m., East Card Room.



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Lew Cardwell, Chairman

A lot of what I have to report to you was contained in my remarks to the co-owners at the annual meeting on March 26th. Since apparently some of you were unable to attend, I'd like to repeat those remarks here:

Thank you for allowing me to address a subject which I feel is important to all of us. The Board of Directors are dedicated individuals who provide us with direction in response to your needs and desires. Your committees are made up of folks who volunteer their personal time and talents to insure that your investment is optimized. The Property Manager, Resident Managers, Engineers, and Association employees are all the best we can get. The Financial Management and Administration Committee provides you with some oversight into the finances and administration of the Association. We are financially strong and enjoy a safe and comfortable environment. Some of our responsibilities to you and the Board are: the annual budget; level of reserves; investment of reserves; investment of other monies; tax liabilities; contractors; insurance; and personnel, procurement and supply policies.

I mention these to illustrate how each and every co-owner and renter has a vested interest in this committee. The point I would like to make is that all of us, either through direct payment to the Association or through rent, pay for the resources necessary to provide the

services we receive. This means that we all have a vested interest in the management of the Association.

All of us have talents which will provide the Association with needed overview and additional resources which cannot be purchased. Your committees need your talents to perform tasks that cannot be provided any other way.

Communities reflect the concerns of the folks living there. Skyline House is a neat, comfortable, secure, and well managed community. It is that way because of a few dedicated individuals who provide their talents toward making it that way. If your serving on a committee, thanks for making our home a good place to live. If not, won't you join us to keep it that way or make any improvements toward a better community.

LAST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

The Financial Management and Administration Committee suffered from a severe shortage of members last year. Those few dedicated participants were able to make some significant recommendations to the Board which resulted in lower cost and improved management. The individual accomplishments are far too numerous to go into here, and like everyone, you're probably more interested in where we are going than where we have been. I would like to

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take this opportunity to say thanks to a fine bunch that worked hard to make our Association a better one. Their efforts will be hard to match.

THIS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

The committee will be organized into several subcommittees. Of the 27 specific functions assigned to the Financial Management and Administration Committee, subcommittees will be formed depending upon the relationship of the functions and number of co-owners and renters available.

As a start, we met in March and formed the Accounting, Administration and Budget subcommittees. There were three committee members present and volunteered to be on a subcommittee. However, we do need some subcommittee chairpersons. Through the use of subcommittees, we hope to cover all the areas without any hardship on members.

In addition to the formation of subcommittees, we plan to provide all co-owners with additional information concerning our areas of responsibility. We also plan fully to support all the other committees and provide any assistance we can.

If you have any concerns that you would like for us to address, please let us know. Better yet, come to our meetings so we can share your concerns and include them in our endeavors.

NEXT MEETING

Our April 9th meeting will be held in the West Card Room at 7:30 p.m. The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the boards and you all are welcome. I really expect a big crowd, so come early and get a good seat.

COMMITTEE MEMBER NEWS

Last month we welcomed Sally Sawyer as our new member. This month we can welcome her again as Mrs. Shlarman. Lucky guy.

Gladys Frank honored me with a turn around the dance floor St. Patrick's Day eve. (What a great gal and excellent dancer).

Somebody said, "To err is human. To really mess things up requires a computer."

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N O T I C E: Advertisements appearing in this Newsletter do not constitute endorsement nor reflect approval thereof by Skyline House Condominium Association or its Board of Directors.



SECURITY & FIRE/SAFETY COMMITTEE

Les Boykin

Our semi-annual report to you for the six months through March 15th reflects a continuing low level of reported criminal and safety incidents. Apart from the well-publicized cluster of three burglaries on October 3, 1984, where force was used to spring doors open (deadbolts were not in place), and the rash of punctured car trunks on Halloween weekend (a result of which little was taken), there were three other incidents of substance, in addition to the usual small amount of vandalism. The three incidents were:

1. A newly purchased home stereo was stolen from a car in the garage.
2. A lady's purse was snatched from a Skyline Plaza guest while she was on the sidewalk near guest parking between the Plaza and our East building. The perpetrator ran off toward the college.
3. A collision occurred outside our driveway entrance on S. George Mason Drive involving a resident's car and an oncoming car. No one was injured, but there was considerable property damage, especially to our resident's car.

During the Committee's March 19th meeting, the specifications used by our Property Manager to send out invitations for competitive bids by security guard companies were reviewed and minor corrections made, including the addition of two new specifications. We want to maintain a stable guard force.

Our third month of Resident Watch showed approximately the same amount of coverage for a shorter month as we logged

in the two previous months. We now have more than 50 members, and we expect even more tours and hours of coverage. However, we remind members to enter their tours in the log book.

Once again, all residents are invited to join. We still have about 25 armbands available for you to wear while getting good, comfortable exercise.

Pat Fredette may be the senior member of the Watch, but he certainly acts and appears youthful. With spring here, he will be walking two miles about every other day outside. Meanwhile, he gave us a lot of coverage during the last month. Thanks, Pat.

Harold Ehlers and Harlan Foote and others continue to give us strong coverage.

Members are reminded to report maintenance problems directly to the Management Office, as well as in the log book.

There was a meeting of the Neighborhood Watch Coordinators on March 28th at the Mason District Police Station, attended by Rob Sherrer and the writer. The new police computer system was discussed. We hope to be tied into this system through the personal computer of Don Fenton of the East building. The plan is to tie in the 35 or so most active Watches; it will enable us to receive advance warnings on

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criminal activities in the area, as well as follow-ups on those previous criminal activities which occurred here or may impact on us.

Frank Preston has made a suggestion to minimize the potential for a head-on collision in our garage. The most likely place for an accident to happen is at the ramp between the C and B levels, especially when a driver is exceeding the speed limit and the vision of an approaching driver is blocked due to parked cars. Frank suggests flashing your BRIGHTS so that the descending car will then be able to see the reflected light off cars and concrete. Try it and note the feeling of greater security it gives you. Unfortunately, this procedure doesn't work as well on the A-level ramp because of the wall.

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From Management



PREVENTING CONDENSATE LINE BACKUP

Now that the cooling season is beginning, we request that all of you help to prevent condensate line backups in your Mechanical Rooms. You can do this by pouring approximately one quart of 1/2 vinegar and 1/2 water solution into the bottom of your hot water heater pans each month during the cooling season. Residents in the East Building have a 1½" open stack pipe in the Mechanical Room into which this solution can be poured. The solution will help to prevent algae from growing and clogging the condensate lines. When the line becomes clogged, the water will back up and may cause damage to carpets, ceilings and walls.

Open your Mechanical Room at least once a week to check for moisture on the floor, or leaks of any kind. Your cooperation is necessary to prevent serious damage perhaps to your unit and more likely to the units below where the water will seep down.

