



# The *House Special*

VOLUME V

NOVEMBER 1985

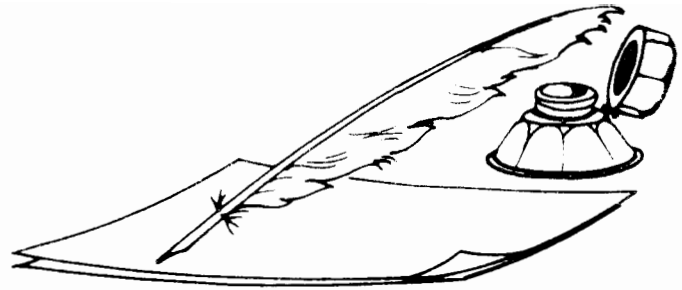
ISSUE 10



*... time to be thankful*



# From the Board



Ken Grant, Secretary

At the October 15th meeting President Ed Stolarun announced, with deep regret, that a letter of resignation had just been received from Lewis Cardwell, Chairman of the Financial Management and Administration Committee. In the name of the entire Board, Ed expressed appreciation for the work done by this committee under his guidance during the past year.

As follow-up to the action taken last month by the Board regarding the clean-up of the bicycle rooms, the Resident Manager reported that, to date, only 49 cycles had been registered, less than half of those previously counted. Registration will continue and Sandy Ziegler will try to obtain input from those who have registered their bikes as to what would be felt to be appropriate racks for more efficient storage. The Board feels that final decisions on improvements to the Bicycle Rooms should include changing the Medeco locks and requiring a deposit for keys issued.

The Property Manager reported on work now in progress: to the West Building sidewalk, roof repairs, floodlighting at the garage entrance and patching of the driveway by Virginia Power. Mr. Hall has discussed with the Smith Company the possibility of use of the office-building parking area by residents and their guests of Skyline House. A final decision on this has not yet been reached. On October 1st, there was the first annual closing-off of the walkway to NVCC, as recommended by our attorney. The "No Trespassing" signs, which were also recommended, are to be installed. This action is necessary in maintaining that there is no legal right-of-way through our property.

Our copying machine, now four years old must soon be replaced. Sandy Ziegler presented a comparison of several models which would meet our requirements. The Board agreed that funds for a replacement should be included in the 1986 budget. However, the Board felt it was important for Management to see the various models in operation as well as obtaining further information on the details of lease-purchase arrangements as compared with outright purchase before a final recommendation is made to the Board.

Tropical storm Gloria, which recently revaged the East Coast, had its impact on Skyline House as it passed through the area on September 27th. The Resident Manager reported on the extent of water damage to common areas and to some units. Insurance is not expected to cover any damages since 'wind-driven rain' is an exclusion in coverage for high rise buildings. The Board authorized an amount of up to \$3,500 for caulking - which must be done prior to the cold weather setting in - and other urgent repairs to the affected areas. The Board expressed sympathy for those residents whose units had been touched by the storm; however, it was recognized that the Association cannot assume responsibility for the consequences of wind-driven rain. Insurance is not available for this and, thus each person must take appropriate precautions, as best he can. Management was commended for its cooperation in lending what assistance it could. In such emergencies, a water vacuum is available.

Over the past months the Physical Plant and Operations Committee has been examining central switchboard options against the day when AT&T will no longer maintain our switchboard. That date is January 1st, 1986. Diets Gerstner, Chairman of the PPOC, had presented a written synthesis of the various alternatives available to us... from the old corkboard-type to those offering "high-tech" services. In this memorandum were also included a review of the technical and economical aspects of each type, along with input from other Association Committees, and an analysis of material on this subject obtained at a Community Associations Institute seminar. Diets pointed out that attractive as the "high-tech" appear, the general feeling of residents is that the services of the present switchboard be maintained. Before a final decision can be reached, Management has been requested to provide a cost analysis of operating the present system along with a review of our basic requirements in equipment and service. They will also get a price-quote from AT&T for the present system and continue to explore the possibility of a lease extended beyond the January 1st deadline.

The Board was reminded that the year-end is rapidly approaching and unanimously appointed Jerry Schumaker and Joe Strahs to continue as CO-chairmen of the Skyline House Holiday Fund. Since this was established as a voluntary expression of thanks to our staff by the residents of our building. It was decided that only actual residents will be asked to participate.

WE ARE SORRY TO ADVISE YOU THAT MRS. AAGOT COLLETT,  
WIFE OF THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD MERRILL  
COLLETT, DIED THREE WEEKS AGO OF A HEART ATTACK.  
MR. MERRILL COLLETT'S ADDRESS IS:

5056 NORTHRIDGE PLACE  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85718

# Committee Communiqués



SECURITY & FIRE/SAFETY COMMITTEE

Les Boykin

Robberies in neighboring Arlington are up over 30% in the first half of 1985 compared with 1984. While serious crime in general in Arlington was up a little over 4%. We don't normally call your attention to crime outside of Fairfax County, particularly our Mason District, but we all must consider that sections of Arlington and Alexandria are closer to us than most of Mason District. Incidentally, robberies in Mason District have not increased. The startling Arlington increase may be partly due to a series of service station robberies where the perpetrators have now been apprehended.

A burglary was reported at Skyline Plaza in September. As usual the unit burglarized did not feature a pick-proof lock.

The Committee at its September meeting reviewed its charter and recommended a number of changes to present to the Board for approval. We think the recommendations better articulate our functions and responsibilities.

We know that all of you who know our chief security guard, Major Jim Gallagher, will want to wish him a full recovery from his recent hospitalization. We hope he will be back with us by the time you read this or shortly thereafter.

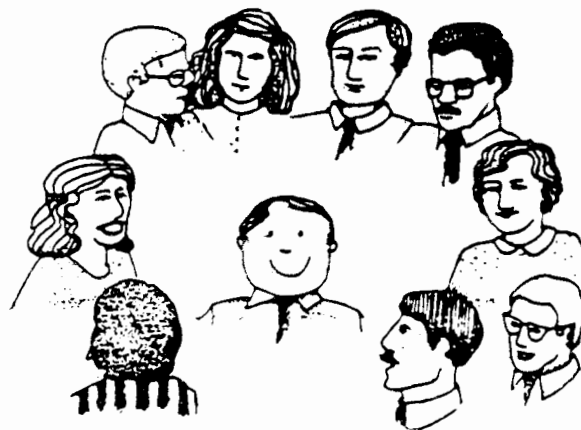
Another apparently substantial accident occurred a short while ago at our entrance intersection (on Sunday evening October 20). Please be careful there and let the Board and this Committee have any current opinions you may have concerning the intersection.

## RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Recreation Committee met on Wednesday, October 9. As usual, the Committee is always looking for additional members.

The Recreation Committee was extremely active during the month of October. The TGIF on the 4th, Oktoberfest on the 6th and the Mexican dinner on the 30th, duplicate bridge every Monday evening and the start of the bread baking class. The residents who participated in these activities had an enjoyable time. Do you participate!!

Next Meeting. Recreation Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 11 in the West Card Room.



"Come join the fun!"

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

November 1, 1984

### Diagnostic Car Test Up-Date

In last month's "Community Notes", we asked those interested in having their cars checked over before the winter by AAA to sign up at the Front Desk. It was also stated that on November 1st a second sign-up list would be put in the same place ... this one for a specific appointment hour. In the interim Ed Berman talked with Mr. Jim Trent of NVCC and learned that a similar service is being offered by the college, free of charge to Virginia motorists. Specifically, the CAR Chek would test; cranking, ignition, fuel, compression, cooling, charging and emission. In view of this information, letters were sent to those residents who had signed up for the AAA diagnostic test, advising them of this option... and giving them the opportunity to opt for the latter testing program. This does not mean that the AAA will not still come to Skyline House on November 16th and 17th, as originally scheduled if ... and this is important ... there are still a minimum of fifteen people who wish to have the AAA service. So there you have it....a choice for those interested in diagnostic car testing. As of November 1st, sign up at the Front desk for a specific appointment (first come, first served) if you require AAA to test your car; or call 845-6230 to make your own arrangements with the College.

### Car Clinic

The Alexandria Campus is also offering a Car Clinic. This is a one- hour slide presentation designed to help you learn how to keep your car operating at top fuel efficiency. You will learn how to keep your car in condition, how to select a fuel efficient car, and how driving habits affect fuel consumption. These clinics will be scheduled at the campus throughout the coming year. You are invited to sign up to attend a clinic, at no charge. If interested, call Patrick Devlin at 845-6230. If sufficient interest is shown, arrangements might be made to have the program presented here in one of our Party Rooms.. a minimum of 20 people is required. Please contact Ed Berman if you would attend such a program.

### Traffic on South George Mason Drive

No one lives here can be unaware of the growing amount of traffic on South George Mason Drive. For those who live on the North Side of the building the scene outside their windows can often be as exciting as a TV car-chase... particularly during morning and evening commuter hours. Seen from a few floors up, it is a constant wonder how motorists and pedestrians, alike, escape unscathed from the complicated traffic patterns, both in front of our entrance and at the intersection of George Mason and Seminary Roads. As the office buildings across the street are fully occupied, things should get even more exciting!

Fully aware of the potential for disaster, Mason District Supervisor, Tom Davis, visited our building last week at 6:30 a.m. to get a first-hand look at the traffic patterns and potential problems. He indicated that he would be paying Skyline House another visit, at the end of the working-day, to gather further information. He will also be viewing traffic patterns and hazards on Route 7 and Seminary Road from the Plaza and the Square.

#### Skyline Task Force

One of the joys of living right-in-the-middle-of-it-all, is being able to walk to the bank, the movies, the supermarket etc. From those of you who enjoy walking, the Community Relations Committee begs a favor; would you please drop a note at the Front Desk to unit #1408 West indicating problems you may have in reaching the amenities of Skyline City...or any other places in the vicinity you may wish to reach on foot, (and that includes NVCC). Our committee is taking a particular interest in the cause of the pedestrian and is interested in your ideas on additional sidewalks, cross-overs, traffic lights .... any idea you may have on how life may be made a little easier and more pleasant for the person who wants to walk rather than to take the car out of the garage and further traffic congestion!

#### Motorcycle Classes

In a meeting Ed Berman had with the Business Manager of NVCC, he was told that the motorcycle classes would end around October 18th and would not recommence until May of 1986. This should be welcome news for some residents living on the South side of the buildings who have been troubled by said classes.

#### CHRISTMAS IN SCANDINAVIA

Mark Your Calendar Now !!

The House Community Relations Committee and the Skyline International Club are planning a special evening here at Skyline House in December.

A delightful person has promised to come and tell us how Christmas is celebrated in the Scandinavian Countries, and we promise you a colorful and entertaining evening -- with special refreshments. So keep Friday, December 20, free. Details later.

- 1) The unit owner or the real estate agent or representative be present at each open house;
- 2) All persons entering Skyline House to view a unit for sale must sign in at the front desk and be escorted to the unit by the owner or his representative;
- 3) All persons in (2) will be escorted back to the desk and checked out before leaving; and
- 4) The rules will be incorporated into writing in the front desk rules and added to the House Rules and Regulations.

It was pointed out that in some condominiums persons arriving must announce the unit he or she is planning to visit. Only after the owner has confirmed the visit is the door opened for the visitor. After reviewing the Fire and Safety Committee recommendations, the Covenants Committee voted to endorse the proposal as presented.

#### Recruitment of new members

A list was requested from Sandy Ziegler with recommendations for potential Covenants Committee members. R. MacAskill will contact the persons involved; to see if we can get more unit owners involved.

#### Other

The Committee briefly discussed a situation in the garage where two cars often occupy one space.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.  
Next meeting Thursday, November 21, in the West Card Room.



# FLEA MART

## november 20, 1985

7:00 p.m.

EAST PARTY ROOM

Tables Reserved for Residents Only !!

NO COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS

COMPLIMENTARY WINE!!!!!!

COMPLIMENTARY WINE!!!!!!

BAKED GOOD DONATIONS WELCOME:

PROCEEDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE

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PLEASE FILL OUT FORM TO RESERVE A TABLE AND RETURN IT TO  
FRONT DESK BY NOVEMBER 18, 1985.

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ONE: LARGE TABLE \_\_\_\_\_ SMALL TABLE \_\_\_\_\_

BAKED GOOD DONATIONS WELCOME

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL GLADYS PONCE-MANRIQUE AT 379-1510



# Take note

This is to alert all residents of Skyline House to the fact that our annual Christmas fund campaign designed to reward the employees of Skyline House, who have served us efficiently and faithfully during the past year, will open late in November.



## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

We know that there were many disappointed would-be readers who missed their House Special this 1 November. They not only looked for it, they expressed their disappointment.

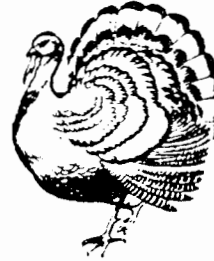
Unfortunately personal pressures prevented our Editor from producing this month's issue. We regret the delay but feel that circulation of this most important means of communication with Skyline House residents should not be interrupted.

This abbreviated version - all the meat and none of the ads - comes to you through the efforts of Sandy Zeigler and Shirley Sabey.

A special thank you.

Ken Grant,  
Secretary.

# **From Management**



## BALCONY

Please do not store any items such as bikes, boxes, excess furniture on your balcony. Balconies give visitors the first impression of our building and should be well kept. House Rules and Regulations #15 should be reviewed by all residents with respect to balcony usage.

## BIRDS

Birds are becoming a nuisance to some residents again. Please do not feed birds. We want to discourage birds from coming unto our balconies, not encourage them.

## REMINDER

Traffic in the garage is one way. Please be sure you follow the arrows. Also TURN ON YOUR HEADLIGHTS. It is very difficult to see when entering the garage from the sunlight and having lights on will enable us to see each other more easily. Speed limit in the garage is 5 MPH. Please use caution while driving in the garage.

## BIKE ROOMS

If you have not already obtained a decal for your bike and it is no longer in the bike room, check with management. On October 28, 1985 the bike rooms were cleared of all bikes without decals. The room has been cleaned and we hope to obtain bike racks early in 1986. If you have a bike stored in the bike rooms, you may obtain a key for your personal use from the management office. Please help us keep the bike rooms clean and report any misuse or untidiness of the rooms to the office.