

The

# *House Special*

Volume VI

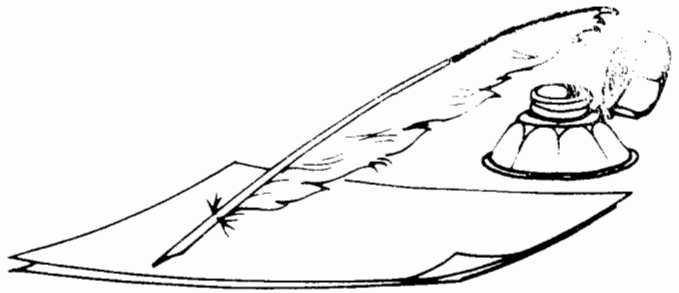
January 1986

Issue 1



# From the Board

Wynfred Joshua, Vice President



President Ed Stolarun reported that the developer had rejected our claim to repair the caulking at the penthouse level gallery windows and party room roofs, and to waterproof existing cracks in the garage slabs. Skyline House has now contracted for the repairs, to the Penthouse level, but will seek restitution from the developer for the costs. The developer has so been notified. Mr. Stolarun also told the Board that he had sent the developer the Board's approval of the landscape plan for the pedestrian overpass.

The first issue of business involved the plan to institute coupon books for paying the monthly condo fee directly to the Bank. During the detailed deliberations the Board questioned the projected savings of the proposed system. While there clearly were savings, these were less than originally expected. The disadvantages of the plan included some loss of control over our collection system and the possibility that an owner's check could get lost in the mail. With the admonition that if "it ain't broke, don't fix it," the Board decided unanimously to stay with the old system of asking owners to drop their condo fee off at the office.

The Board subsequently discussed the acquisition of a copier for the office. The decision was made to buy a Toshiba BD 8412 which would meet our requirements.

Treasurer Joe Strahs reported that he had renegotiated the contract with the auditor for another year at no increase. He noted that we have the option to extend the contract for another year without any increase. The treasurer announced that we had only one delinquent in condo fees this month. The latter had paid \$600. on the outstanding debt.

The property manager presented his report which called for awarding several service contracts. The Board approved the following contracts: for interior plant maintenance, Botannical Decorators at \$85.00 per month; for extermination service, Paramount at \$125.00 per month; for semi-annual emergency generator maintenance, Truland Electric at \$720.00; for window washing, American Windows and Building Cleaning Contractor at no increase over the current year; for elevator maintenance service, Schindler-Haughton at 1.4 per cent increase over last year; and for maintaining the grounds, Lancaster Landscapes for \$4,892. for the next year. Regarding the latter contract, the Board instructed that to the extent possible the recommendations of the Physical Plant and Operations Committee be implemented.

*\$14,892*

The Board's current insurance coverage was reviewed in detail by the Board, and the Board's insurance companies. The Board accepted the recommendation to continue with the same insurance company for all risk at replacement cost for the building. The Board also decided to maintain its current liability coverage of \$10 million rather than reduce the coverage.

The Board declined to become involved in recommending an individual "condo care" package to unit owners. Companies offering this type of maintenance service should contact owners directly.

The Board noted with regret the resignation of Karen Hill, our newsletter editor. Thanks to the dedication of Karen Hill and her predecessor Marden Kimball, the House Special reached its professional quality. For the time being the newsletter will be handled in the manager's office until a new editor can be found.

The final issue that generated a lively debate involved the question of how to protect owners' outdoor parking spaces against illegal use by visitors. The problem appears to be more acute for owners with parking spaces behind the East Building than for those with spaces behind the West Building. One reason was that Skyline Plaza guests tend to park in Skyline House spaces. The painting of Reserved on the ground had indeed improved the situation, but some owners continued to find illegal parking in their spaces. The suggestion to place an orange construction cone in front of the space upon vacating the parking space was voted down. No particular decision was made.

*Best Wishes  
for a  
Happy New Year*



# Committee Communiqués

## COMMUNITY NOTES

Elizabeth Grant

JANUARY, 1986

The Holiday Season in Skyline House was made especially festive this year due to extraordinary efforts by a small group of residents. Carroll Thompson and his dedicated group from the Recreation Committee started December off in elegant style at the TGIF for that month on the traditional first Friday. The room was decorated imaginatively ( as it always seems to be for those occasions ) with, among other things, stuffed toys from Marjorie Levitan's collection. There were party favors through the courtesy of Bette Stolarun.....and food, food, food from the faithful TGIF contingent!

Then on December 20th, as announced, Skyline House hosted the International Club's program. Karen Felker, an East Building resident and member of the Community Relations Committee, organized the whole affair. This entailed an incredible amount of time and effort on her part, made worthwhile by the capacity crowd which turned out to hear about Christmas in Scandinavia from Dr. and Mrs. Hansen; to see the Lucia procession; to have a glass of glugg and cookies made by members of the Community Relations Committee. Everything combined to make a lovely introduction to Christmas; it was only the weather which did not cooperate... by making the roads so icy that the group of dancers scheduled to come from Silver Springs were not able to get here. But, with or without them, there was joy in the air!

.....

If there is anyone of you out there who really wanted to make a good resolution for 1986 and just couldn't think of one, here's something to be determined about that would not only help YOU but would benefit our Association: BE RESOLVED TO JOIN A SKYLINE HOUSE COMMITTEE! (It doesn't even have to be the Community Relations.) This decision is guaranteed to be Character-building; that, in itself, should be worth a couple of hours once a month....and it doesn't involve going on a diet!

.....

I am happy to report that no news has reached this committee of any additional new office buildings to be erected in our area. It may be that developers were just too busy during December to think about such plans...or they may have been temporarily discouraged by the near-gridlock state of traffic on Route 7..... and it was due only to Christmas shoppers. (They may be having second thoughts about trying to squeeze any more in!) Watch for this column in future issues; we'll try to keep you posted!

.....

## TRAVEL NEWS FOR SKYLINE RESIDENTS

FLASH! You may be entitled to a discount if: you purchased airline tickets from British Airways, Pan Am, or TWA after February 26, 1982 and used them between March 1, 1982 and March 31, 1984 for travel between the U.S. and the U.K. Such discount would apply to future transatlantic flights on any of those carriers pending U.S. Court approval ending the Laker Airways case.

SENIOR PASSES: TWA has a one year VSP Senior Pass at \$1,299 for those 65 and over. It has added San Juan, Puerto Rico to its over 60 U.S. cities. For \$199 extra, passholders may travel to another new destination - the Bahamas. Add \$499 and you can go to any of 12 European cities. A companion of any age may buy the pass at the same time, at the same price and travel with you. Eastern's Senior Pass, also good for one year, has lowered the eligibility age from 65 to 62.

SOCCER WORLD CUP '86 in MEXICO: For millions of soccer fans worldwide the World Cup is bigger than the Olympics. It takes place in Mexico between May 31 and June 29, 1986. Stays of up to 32 days can be arranged including round trip air, transfers, first-class hotels, transportation and tickets to all games for under \$100 a day.

SMALL vs. LARGE CRUISE LINES: One might think that a cruise on a small line without deluxe accommodations would be one's best bet where price is the primary consideration. But, think again---maybe not!!! If the passenger market is not growing as fast as a big cruise line is constructing new vessels, the big line may have to offer large discounts to fill cabins and maintain cash flow to pay for the construction.

\*\*\*\*\*

\$895 ROUND TRIP FIRST CLASS TO HAWAII VIA MAJOR SCHEDULED AIRLINES  
We were quoted \$2,272.00 by major airlines on recent calls. Note: This is NOT a charter flight - you choose your own day and hour of departure.

\*\*\*\*\*

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Les Boykin  
820-1567

Carroll Thompson  
820-2954

Bill Miller  
998-6037

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## RECREATION COMMITTEE

"Come join the fun!"

The Recreation Committee met on December 12th to formulate plans for the coming months. These activities are:

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| January 3   | T.G.I.F. East Party Room.  |
| January 24  | Wine and Cheese Party, Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the West Party Room.<br>See flyer in Newsletter for details to make your reservation.<br>Mimi Frank Hostess. |
| February 6  | T.G.I.F. West Party Room.  |
| February 27 | Italian Nite, East Party Room.   |
| March 7     | T.G.I.F. East Party Room.  |
| April 4     | T.G.I.F. West Party Room.  |
| April 18    | International Nite (tentative)   |
| May 2       | T.G.I.F. East Party Room.  |
| May 17      | West End Dinner Theater, the play "1776" in Alexandria, Va. It is<br>a sitdown dinner - not a buffet.  |
| June 6      | T.G.I.F. West Party Room.  |
| June 7      | Luau Pool Area.  |

As you see, a number of activities are planned. Is there anything else you would like to see planned by your Recreation Committee. Please do not send a note to the chairman, join us on Wednesday, January 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the West Card Room to present your ideas.

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## EMPLOYEES' HOLIDAY FUND

Two hundred twenty-seven residents (compared to 222 last year) responded to the 1985 Holiday Fund campaign. The total amount collected was \$6,156 (compared to \$5,752 last year). This made it possible to present each of the 26 members of our staff with a generous expression of our appreciation for his or her efforts

toward the well-being of Skyline House. Any contributor who so desires may inquire as to the breakdown of funds by contacting Jerry Schumaker (820-8898).

We wish to thank each person who contributed to this fund.

Joe Strahs and  
Jerry Schumaker

Announcing...

A Wine and  
Cheese Party

Friday, January 24th

6:30 PM

West Party Room

\$2.75 per person  
Residents and their  
guests welcome

Checks must be received  
no later than Monday,  
January 20th.

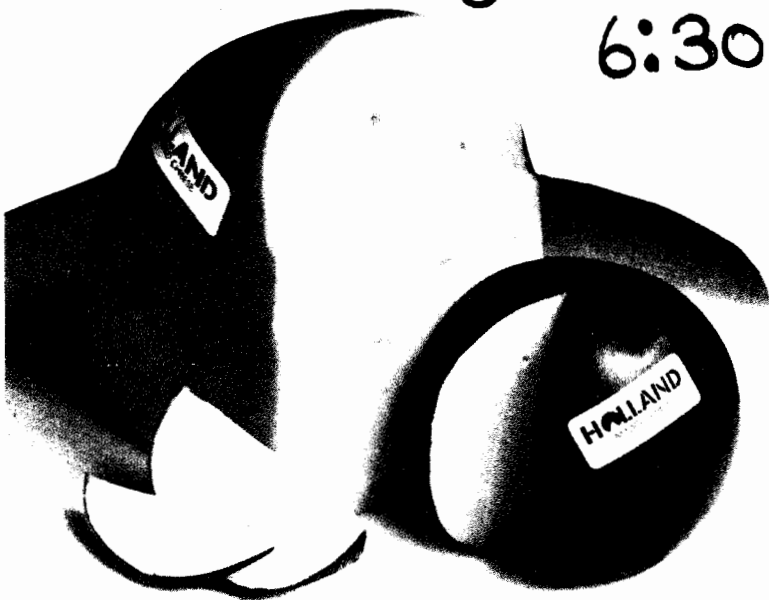
Wine and Cheese Party, January 24, 1986

Make non-refundable check payable to: Skyline House Recreation Committee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ No. in Party \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. of Check \_\_\_\_\_

Please leave reservation slip & check at front desk for Mimi Frank, #1111W

Any questions, call 578-4858.







## SECURITY & FIRE/SAFETY COMMITTEE

Les Boykin

## SECURITY & FIRE/SAFETY COMMITTEE

Recently a Watch member on patrol discovered that a resident, whose electricity had been cut off, had plugged into one of the building electrical outlets. Thus we were all paying this resident's bill and he didn't have to bother applying to Virginia Power's Energy Share program for assistance. I know you are all pleased to have been able to participate in this worthy cause at this time of year.

In addition to the above, the Watch performed 34 patrols for a total of more than 27 hours of coverage from mid-November to mid-December. We thank all of you who contributed this time and would like to recognize that 2 of our joggers patrol while jogging. They are Bob Yeargan and Bill Southerland.

Del Burchfield and the writer attended the Mason District Watch Coordinator's meeting in December. Did you know that VANDALISM results in more property damage than all other categories of crime combined? And this is true despite the fact that vandalism to autos is recorded under a category called "Auto Tampering" instead of vandalism. Vandalism breeds more Vandalism so let's all be alert to report all instances of it and try to get descriptions of those doing it where possible. Don't shrug it off just because the perpetrator may be a kid.

Officer Josh Brown announced there will be special Police briefings on the unique problems of security in hi-rises (vertical security) and how to best address them. The dates are not set, but it should be in April.

A CAUTION; Very recently a resident reported that in a single departure from the garage he was forced to stop to avoid a collision on 2 different levels. The 2 cars he stopped for were both in the position of not having the right of way by virtue of a YIELD sign in their path which they ignored. If an accident occurs due to your going thru a YIELD sign when you should have yielded you may well be the one held liable for it. Admittedly, the YIELD signs in the garage are not as obvious as we would like but make sure you are aware of their locations and respect them and save yourself a lot of trouble.

Most regrettably Karyn Hill, who for two years has been Editor of The House Special, has resigned because of the increasing responsibilities in her job. Consequently this issue of The House Special comes to you through the efforts of the ladies in the Management Office, particularly Shirley, with some other volunteer assistance.

Our Association has been fortunate to have had first Marden Kimball and then Karyn Hill to have built up The House Special into such an interesting and pleasing newsletter. Do we have another in our midst who will step forward? Perhaps not. Then are there a few, who would never profess to such skills yet ready to try, who would pool their efforts to put together our newsletter? For one person the task is time consuming. However several hands can make work light. A short time spent once a month could turn out to be fun and would be of immense service to the Association in maintaining this essential means of communication among Skyline House residents.

---

# Let us help you with your Condo Sales, Purchases, & Property Management.....



--- Irene Hedrick ---

--- Beatriz Carroll ---

--- Munira Kazma ---

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The Chairman stated that he had never seen a complaint form regarding anyone observing a move-in or move-out in the middle of the night. This is similar to the lack of complaint forms received on speeding after hearing so much about that subject. The Chairman then read another letter to the Skyline House attorney regarding owners not providing leases to their tenants and said that this was the first time he had seen Management take action. The letter had been sent to him by the Resident Manager. He said that there had been 19 violations during the month of October, including a theft from the storage room, a theft from the bike room, move in-out violations. The complaint form is not attached to all violations reported. Apparently, they are ones reported verbally to the office, as 12 out of 19 had no form attached. The Chairman will suggest to S. Ziegler that she ask complainants to fill out forms when making verbal complaints. L. Boykin felt that a complaint form should be a duplication of items noted in the Incident Book, which is supposed to contain criminal violations. All violation reports and actions taken are available to committee members should they care to read them.

The Chairman reported that he had attended a seminar at the Marriott on rules and regulations in condos, and that when it was over he felt that Skyline House is far ahead of other condos in all respects after listening to other condo complaints.

Regarding guest parking, R. Huppert said that it had been discussed at length at the Board meeting and that a harder line will be taken on towing. The current posted notices regarding towing are a result of this Committee's motion at the last meeting.

R. Huppert asked what was going to happen about people moving in and out and felt that there should be another option besides the freight elevator. It was suggested that maybe the security people could check the freight elevator more often, especially late at night.

L. Boykin said that the first guard comes on at 8 p.m., the second one at 11 p.m., for eight hour shifts. Instructions should be put in the guard book to emphasize checking freight elevators for move-ins and move-outs and to take action to stop it by calling the manager.

J. Strahs said that there is a problem on the Finance Committee, with having two chairmen in one year. The Board is looking for a new chairman. He said that the condo fee will go up 1.9% for 1986.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Due to Christmas week, there will be no December meeting. The next meeting will be in January 1986, with the date and location to be announced later.

Mary Walsh, Recording  
Secretary

# From Management



## THANK YOU!

The employees of Skyline House wish to thank all of the residents who contributed to the Employee Holiday Fund. The gifts of money we received certainly are appreciated. Your contributions made our holiday even more enjoyable.

Our Christmas Party was held at Chi-Chi's Mexican Restaurant. Food was great and we all enjoyed the time together to see each other away from the building.

We wish all of you a very prosperous and Happy New Year.

## GOODBYE TO SHIRLEY

Our Assistant Manager, Shirley Sabey, is leaving Skyline House December 27th to move to Florida. We've enjoyed knowing Shirley and working with her and will miss her. Our best to you as you start a new career in Real Estate and a very prosperous and Happy New Year.

## HELLO TO PAT

On Monday December 30th, our new Assistant Manager will join us. Her name is Pat Bond. Pat is beginning a new career in the property management field with us. She has worked for the Federal Government for the past twenty years and I'm sure she will prove most capable in filling the Assistant Managers' position. Please stop by to introduce yourselves to Pat so that she quickly learns to know our residents.

## PLEASE REMEMBER

Remind your guests that they must obtain a parking permit at the desk and place it on their dashboard in order to avoid being towed.

December 8, 1985, we received a note from Merrill Collett, our former Board President to say thank you to those persons wishing him well since the death of his wife. He also wanted us to know that he appreciated contributions made to "Emergency Relief" Tucson Metropolitan Ministry, which was a program in which Mrs. Collett was very active. Over \$1400. has already been contributed in her name. Mr. Collett's address is 5056 N. Northridge, Tucson, Arizona 85718