The



House Special

VOLUME XV

FEBRUARY 1995

NO. 2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Tilson, President

The following were the main items discussed at the January 26 meeting of the Board of Directors:

Redecoration

The redecoration process is well underway. The painting of the residential corridors of the west building has commenced and is being completed at the rate of about one floor per week. The wall paper and carpeting have been ordered and will be installed as soon as possible after their receipt on the floors that have been painted.

The two types of lighting fixtures designated by the interior designer have been on display on the 11th floor of the West Building for the past several weeks. Based on the feedback received by the Board, and the discussion at the Board meeting, it was clear that there were many unit owners who find the hanging fixtures unattractive, but who have no objection to the flush ceiling fixtures.

The Board voted to ask management to install the three hanging fixtures in front of the elevators on the 11th floor of the West Building and the flush ceiling fixtures on the rest of that floor. The 11th floor would then have the lighting proposed in the approved design. Management also was instructed to install the flush ceiling lighting only (no hanging fixtures) on the 12th floor. Residents will then have

an opportunity to compare the two floors and make their views known as to which of the two installations they prefer. The Board will then make its decision after considering the preferences of the residents.

Since the hanging fixtures are quite expensive (they are priced at \$275 each, and the flush fixtures cost about \$40 each), if it is decided to eliminate the hanging fixtures, we will save more than \$20,000 in redecorating costs on the lighting alone.

Management reported that the total cost of redecorating is likely to be on the order of \$80,000 - \$100,000 less than the \$550,000 previously approved by the Board. This is attributable mainly to the savings in the costs of the carpeting. Moreover, we will get higher quality carpeting of the same design at considerably lower cost than the carpeting recommended by the designer. The same is true of the wall paper. We have ordered higher quality wall paper of the same color/design as specified, and are getting it at a much lower price than was estimated by the interior designer.

This is another example of Don Fenton's astute management perceptions in the area of large scale buying. Rather than simply accept the designer's recommendations and cost estimates, he solicited bids from competing manufacturers and succeeded in lowering overall costs by as much as 20 percent. I am sure all unit owners will join me in congratulating Don on the excellent job he is doing.

(continued on page 3)

House Special

Editor:

Law Henderson

Advertising:

Skyline House Business Office (703) 578-4855

Copy Due Date:

20th of the month preceding issue date

Published:

Monthly

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The House Special welcomes brief comments from its readers. Please limit your letters to 250 words and include your name and Unit Number. The Association Board reserves the right to refuse incorrect or improper statements.

ADVERTISING: A rate card, showing the costs and sizes, is available from the Business Office. If there are services and/or tradespeople with whom you have dealt, let the Business Office, 578-4855, know so that we may pursue them as advertisers. The appearance of advertisements in the House Special does not constitute endorsement by the Association.

PUBLISHED BY: SKYLINE HOUSE UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., 3711 South George Mason Drive, Falls Church, VA 22041-3713, (703) 578-4855.

PRINTED BY:

Curry Printing and Copy Center Alexandria, VA

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I visited the 11th floor West to look at the new light fixtures I thought the one in the elelvator area was the ugliest I have ever seen. The round area on top, attached to the ceiling, looks like corroded metal. The glass looks dirty.

When I submitted my ballot I included a note (addressed to Messrs. Tilson, Noonan, and Fenton) suggesting that, if #3 turned out to be the choice, one floor be decorated as a model before carrying out the entire project. My concern was and is with the elevator area - the green wall opposite the elevators, the art work and mirrors, and the light fixtures. Before all the decorative pieces and light fixtures are manufactured and purchased, I would hope this still could be done.

The paint on the walls and doors looks fine, the other light fixture seems all right, and I expect the carpet will be satisfactory as well. Again, it is the elevator area I am worried about, and the light fixture has added to my concern.

I hope others share my desire to have a chance to see the project carried to conclusion on one floor only to see if it turns out to be obvious that some adjustments are needed.

Virginia Wallace 1715W

* * * * *

Recently, two new light fixtures were installed near—the elevators on the 11th floor of the West Building. Apparently, they are prototypes of the new fixtures to be installed in the corridors as the remodeling continues. I invite owners and residents to visit the area and make their opinions known to the Board.

Personally, I am satisfied with the flush fixture. It looks fine. I find the hanging fixture to be much less attractive than the fixture it replaces. Although the community voted on the design, in my mind the actual hanging fixture is not as pretty as it was depicted. If a majority of the commuity agrees with me, we should not use that hanging fixture.

Our decorating activity should use the medical credo as a guide. Paraphrased, the latter states, "First, do no harm!" The redecorating should proceed on the same basis. It is my hope that if there has been a miscalculation regarding the attractiveness of the hanging fixture to the majority of the owners and residents, the Board and Decorating Committee will recognize it and replace it with something more suitable.

Again, Please visit the test site and tell the Board and Dick Noonan, the Chair of the Decorating Committee whether the hanging fixture should be used or not. Thank you all.

> Gordon Frank 1111W

(continued from page 1)

The Board also approved a proposal by Dolores Littles to complete the redecoration of the party rooms. The window treatment in both party rooms, and the purchase of coffee tables, had been deferred because of concern about the cost, which is estimated to be a bit under \$20,000. Now that it is clear that the costs of redecorating the residential corridors will be \$80,0000 to \$100,000 less than the budgeted amount, the Board felt comfortable in approving completion of the party rooms.

Financial Report

We ended our fiscal year with a surplus of \$13,500 (after taxes) which is being added to working capital. This is an unaudited figure. Our annual audit by Goldklang, Cavanaugh and Associates is scheduled to take place early in February.

Landscaping

We have now retained a qualified landscape designer who will have a detailed long-range landscaping plan ready for implementation by early March. The plan will encompass all of our grounds and will include trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals. The portion to be implemented this year

will be covered by our landscaping budget, so no additional approvals -- beyond that of the landscaping committee -- will be necessary to proceed.

Legal Counsel

We have retained the law firm of Kass, Skalet, Segan, Spevack and Van Grack, P.C. as our legal counsel for several years. We were notified in December that this firm is dissolving and that the Virginia office, headed by Robert Segan, with whom we had worked closely, and whose competence and responsiveness had impressed us favorably, was being established as the independent firm of Segan, Mason and Mason, P.C.

The Board voted to retain Segan, Mason and Mason as our legal counsel.

Request for Changed Use of C2E

Mr. Khalil Khatib wrote a letter to the Board, dated January 17, in which he offered to sell commercial suite C1E or C2E to Skyling House, without parking spaces, for \$10,000 provided we were willing to permit use of the other unit as a grocery store, dry-cleaning shop, or other retail business. (Continued on page 4)





The HOUSE SPECIAL

continued from page 3).

Alternatively, he offered to sell both units, with five parking spaces, for \$100,000.

The Board voted to advise Mr. Khatib that use of any commercial unit for retail business was not permissible. It will consider the possibility of making an offer for both units after it has had an opportunity to determine possible uses of this space for the benefit of the unit owners. Under our bylaws, authority to purchase the space must be supported in writing by a majority of the unit owners.

Gift to Culpepper Garden

I sit on the Board of Culpepper Garden, a non-profit (501(c)3) HUD-subsidized housing facility for low-income elderly. The median age of the residents is 81. Culpepper Garden is now redecorating its residential corridors, and it could use the corridor ceiling lights we plan to replace in our buildings. I recommended that we donate about 250 of our replaced lighting fixtures to Culpepper Garden and take a tax deduction. The Board unanimously approved the donation.

Candidates for Board Elections

Skyline house is a self-governing community that is, in effect, a legally-sanctioned sub-unit of local government. It elects its own Board of Directors. The Board, on behalf of the unit owners, hires (and fires) professional management, approves the budget (including determining the amounts of the condo fees), sets the rules and regulations governing behavior in the condominium, and otherwise makes decisions that affect the quality of life and the value of the property. The Board's responsibility and considerable powers are set forth in the Virginia condominium law and the Association's bylaws.

It is in every unit owner's self interest to make every effort to ensure that intelligent, experienced, emotionally stable and mature individuals, capable of dealing with controversial issues, are elected to the Board of Directors.

This year, on March 28, we will elect three new members to the Board. One will be elected for a 1-year term to serve out the term of Sam

Blumberg, who has sold his unit and is leaving Skyline House at the end of January. The other two vacancies are for 3-year terms to replace Mike Moore and me. Mike has served three years on the Board; I have served seven.

So far, there are no candidates who have filled in the form (obtainable in the management office) used to declare their willingness to be elected to the Board. This is real cause for alarm. We must have at least three candidates -- preferably five or six.

I urge those of you who feel qualified to serve on the Board to fill out a candidacy form by February 17. If you know some other unit owners who you feel would make good Board members, please urge them to become candidates. Serving on the Board, and helping to find qualified Board candidates, are both important contributions to the well-being of this community, and also serve your own interests as unit owners.



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SECURITY, FIRE & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Millie Foley, Chair

The Security Committee met on January 12 with seven members/visitors present.

There was a review of the incidents which occurred at Skyline House during November and December, and the General Manager brought the committee upto-date on lighting and painting in the garage.

Prior to the meeting, members of the committee viewed the new glass doors and lighting in the West Billiard Room.

Our next meeting will be the second Thursday in March (the 19th) at 7:30 pm.

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FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Bill Miller, Chair

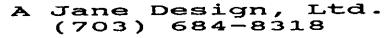
The Financial Management Committee lost one of its <u>first</u> and staunchest members, Mary Gladys Frank, who died January 1, 1995. For over fourteen years she volunteered her time to the Committee and the Association. Gladys was a dear friend to every member of the Committee.

At the January 19, 1995 regular committee meeting the members were briefed by the General Manager on the financial status of the on-going corridor redecortating. All costs and estimates at this time remain within the estimates available at the time of the project approval by the Board of Directors. Savings have already been realized in several areas and final costs should remain well within the funds available in the reserve accounts earmarked for decoration.

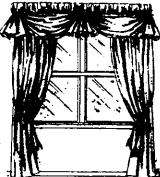
The audit of the Association's 1994 financial records will begin on February 6, 1995. The final Board approved report should be available for presentation by the Board of Directors to the unit owners at our annual meeting on the last Tuesday in March, 1995.

Once again, our meeting lasted less than one hour. It is not every meeting you can go to and be home in time for 8:00 p.m. prime time TV.

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RECREATION COMMITTEE

Tony DiSalvo & Dave Harvey, Co-Chairs

The committee met on January 11 for a short meeting.

A discussion took place on reducing the number of committee meetings and it was agreed to meet every other month with the exception of December when we finalize plans for the Annual Holiday Party. Therefore, there will be no meeting in February. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 8 in the East Card Room at 7:30 p.m.

ATLANTIC CITY. A trip to Atlantic City is planned for Thursday, May 11. Mark your calendar. More details later.

If you are a new resident and have not attended a monthly TGIF, please make February 3 your first and meet your neighbors. YOU are more than welcome and to make it easier, you are requested NOT to bring a plate of hors d'oeuvres -- just your own liquid beverage.

The next TGIF will be on Friday, February 3, West Party Room, 6:30 p.m.

The next committee meeting will be on Wednesday, March 8, East Card Room at 7:30 p.m. Why not join us?

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

TGIF	FRI	Feb 3	WPR	6:30 PM
TGIF	FRI	Mar 3	WPR	6:30 PM
REC COM	WED	Mar 8	ECR	7:30 PM

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Gladys Ponce-Manrique Business (703) 241-2100 Home (703) 379-0335

PHYSICAL PLANT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Gordon Frank, Acting Chair

The Deputy General Manager reported on a great number of continuing items. Among them were the installation of a railing at the stairway at the west end of the West Building, resurfacing of the bridge between the East Building and the garage, garage waterproofing, installation of glass doors in the billiard rooms, scheduled tree replacement, repair of the pool deck next spring and the fence at our property line with BuildAmerica.

One leftover item from the November meeting was closed. The committee voted to recommend that four wood and chicken wire storage lockers be replaced by steel ones. The committee action resulted from a complaint by an owner.

Jean Orben has agreed to be the recorder for the March meeting. The meeting will be held on Monday, the 6th at 8 PM due to the Acting Chair's schedule conflict

A motion was passed to undertake with the General Manager and the Security, Fire and Safety Committee a joint review of all the signs on Skyline House property. The PPOC also passed a motion recommending the Board direct the General Manager to change the lane markings at the exit driveway. The right hand lane should be marked for right turns only, the left hand marked for traffic going straight or making a left turn. This change would allow right turn traffic to proceed without being impeded by cars waiting to go straight or turn left.

Finally, the Deputy General Manager agreed to investigate the possibility of adding The Weather Channel to the Washington Cable service.

The committee completed its business in a little over one hour and adjourned shortly after 9 PM.

Committee meetings are open to all owners or residents. We welcome your participation.



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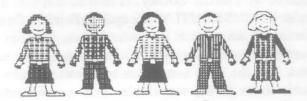
Co-Chairs:

Irene Wolgamot

998-1715

Geraldine Naveau

931-4643



The volunteer GOOD NEIGHBORS for February are:

SKYLINE HOUSE GOOD NEIGHBORS

February 1995

Sandra Bates

671-7325

Charles Roberts

998-6080

On Saturday, February 11, the Good Neighbor volunteers will get together for a pot-luck dinner at :00 PM in the West Party Room.

This group stands ready to give temporary help to any Skyline resident who needs it due to illness, disability or emergency.

The names and telephone numbers of the two Good Neighbors of the Month are displayed regularly each month in the Mail Lobbies.

Taken from "More Anguished English"

Pompeii was destroyed by an overflow of saliva from the Vatican.

Julius Caesar was renowned for his great strength. He threw a bridge across the Rhine. His dying words were "And you too--you brute!"

Joan of Arc was burnt to a streak.

Martin Luther was on a diet of Worms.

In the middle of the 18th century all the morons moved to Utah.

Henry VIII by his own efforts increased the population of England by 40,000.

he system of checks and balances means that you have to keep a balance in the bank to write checks.

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MANAGEMENT REPORT

Don Fenton, General Manager

ACH

Any unit owner wishing to sign up for AUTOMATIC CONDO FEE DEDUCTION (ACH) may obtain an application from the management or accounting offices. Over 20 % of your peers are finding this an easy way to avoid late charges as well as beating the latest Postal rate increase.

RULE REMINDERS

RULE 16 <u>DECORATIONS</u>

A. Seasonal decorations are permitted on unit doors and balconies during the period December 1st - January 15th.

NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONS

Lately some residents have been reporting "scraping" noises from above their unit. Usually this is caused by chairs or other objects being pushed across an uncarpeted floor. Under most cases this can be quite annoying but especially so in the early morning. In most cases we are not even aware that we are doing this so let all of us be a little more aware and let our neighbors sleep.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At the January Board meeting approval was given for management to upgrade six storage bins as soon as possible. == Bids for recovering the pool deck in early April will be presented to the Board in March. == The new fence along the Build America/Skyline House boundary should be erected in February. == At the request of the PPOC we will be changing the traffic flow at the main entrance for at least a test period. The left exit lane will then be used for left turn and STRAIGHT AHEAD traffic. The right lane will be for right turn only. By the way, the right turn on red option is NOT valid when pedestrians are present at the crosswalk. This is a legally enforceable violation.

RECYCLING

Last month we published a list of acceptable recyclables. That list is still the OFFICIAL list required by Fairfax County. It is true that our trash hauler is CURRENTLY accepting Fairfax County "verboten" items such as butter bowls, etc. Let me stress that our hauler does not have to accept these items. For the time being you may include all such plastic items in the recyclables and we will advise you when the trash company ceases to accept these items.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Management would appreciate being advised of the loss of any security keys and/or garage cards as it happens. The garage cards can be deprogrammed at will and a lookout will be made for any keys reported lost or stolen. While we are at it, please remember to update your Occupancy Form whenever information changes. For example, many times when we have an emergency we find that the number at work and/or the contact has changed and we are unable to contact you. Upgrade forms are available at both the Front Desk and Management offices.

ELECTIONS SCOREBOARD

Skyline House needs a minimum of 3 unit owners to fill three upcoming vacancies to the Board of Directors. Dave Tilson's, (805 W) and Mike Moore's, (1213 E) three year terms will be completed in March. Sam Blumberg whose term should normally expire in March of 1996 is leaving Skyline House on January 30, 1995 which creates an opening for a one year term. Applications may be obtained at the FRONT DESK at any time. Following is the 1995 Election Schedule:

Nominations Open: January 1, 1995
Nominations Close: February 17, 1995
Unit Owner Mailout: March 1, 1995
Meet the Candidates Night: March 20, 1995

7:30 PM in the East Party Room

ELECTIONS: March 28, 1995

7:15 PM in the Main Lobby

REPORT FORMS

Skyline House has three basic methods of reporting defects, etc., available to all residents. They are: 1) directed information to the Front Desk which is then entered into their log; 2) the "Maintenance Log"; and 3) the "Resident Action Form". Each of these methods is designed for a specific purpose with only a small overlap of functions.

Front Desk Log

Each shift maintains a log in which messages, emergency situations (fire, police, etc.), equipment malfunctions, notifications to engineers, duty managers, etc., inventory, duty personnel, resident and guest special requests and any other information for Skyline House internal use. For example, verbal (via phone or in person) reports of minor problems such as, burned out lights, suspicious actions, odors*, noise*. Problems, such as water leakage, etc., are logged (time:location:disposition) as they occur. This log is for internal use only.

* A Resident Action Form should be completed as soon after the report as possible. While we will act immediately to problems, a written report of Covenant Violations from a resident is appropriate in any Covenants proceedings.

Maintenance Log

The maintenance log is available to unit residents and/or owners 24 hours per day. It can be obtained by asking Front Desk personnel. The log's purpose is for the listing of any real or perceived observation of malfunctioning equipment, hazardous conditions, etc., of a specific nature. Required information includes the date and time of the report; reporter's unit number; a brief description of the problem; the problem locale: and Action Taken. The Action Taken column is for office use only and is normally used for the assigned work order number. A copy of the maintenance log as well as a copy of the work ordered and work accomplished is supplied to the Physical Plant and Operating Committee (PPOC) at each meeting, for their review. Please remember all work orders, whether generated from the desk log,

maintenance log, walk-in, in-unit requests, employees, or management inspections are entered into the work order system. At the present time we have established a data base in excess of 13,000 work orders. It is important that items entered into this log are Common Area Maintenance Problems ONLY!!!! Use of this log is one way that residents can greatly assist us in swiftly correcting existing problems, as well as eliminate larger ones when caught early.

Resident Action Form

This last form is a 3 piece form, available at either the Front Desk or in the Management Office. Its purpose is for making suggestions, reporting a violation, either Covenants (Rules & Regulations) or other laws. It may be used for compliments or any other than COMMON other reason **AREA** MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS. After completing the form either bring it to the Management Office or Front Desk where it will be signed by a staff member. The office will assign a report number. After a review and action assignment by either Don Perper, DGM or myself the Pink copy, stating such action will be returned to you. All violations are sent to the Covenants Committee and a copy to any other Committee having oversight in a particular area.

VOTE!!

Having won election to the House of Representatives, Tom Davis has resigned as Chairman of the Fairfax Board of Supervisors. A county-wide special election to pick his successor will be held on Tuesday, February 7.

The two candidates are: a) Kate Hanley, (D) presently supervisor of the Providence District; and b) Elaine McConnell, (R) presently supervisor of the Springfield District.

Skyline Mall voting booths will be open 6 A. M. to 7 P. M. even if schools are closed due to inclement weather.

Any questions? Call B. Michelman 931-6093.