



THE HOUSE SPECIAL

Volume XXII, No. 7

www.shuoa.org

July 2002



Board of Directors President, Johnnie Moore

There are several issues facing the SHUOA that we have been making an effort to keep in front of the Association membership. One is a potential court case initiated by the Skyline Plaza concerning the easement we have for entry into the Skyline House complex between the two properties. Skyline Plaza chose to proceed with a court case versus trying to work out a reasonable settlement.

Another has to do with the water problem on the ground level corridor between the East and West buildings. Tests by our engineering consulting firm have determined that the cause is associated with the lack of a proper seal at the joints that connect the two buildings. Management is in the process of getting more detailed information, and it will then be presented through the appropriate process for a decision on how to proceed to correct the problem.

The issue of crows nesting in the trees on the property has been addressed to various levels of local and federal Government, and so far we have not found anyone willing to step up to owning up to the problem. All answers to date point back to us for resolution. The issue is still being worked, but I am not optimistic that we will find a quick solution.

Several residents who use parking spaces in the rear of the West building have complained about damage to their vehicles due to bird droppings. We have pruned back the trees in front of the spaces

owned by those who have complained in an effort to resolve the problem. If there are others experiencing a similar problem, please contact Management so we can take action as appropriate to minimize future damage to vehicles as necessary. We will continue to keep you posted on these and other issues as they come up and track them until resolved.

We have changed the day for monthly Board meetings from the last Thursday in the month to the last Wednesday in the month to accommodate Board members who have a conflict with the Thursday meeting date. We encourage residents to attend the Board meetings, in person, whenever possible. We will continue to tape and rebroadcast the monthly meeting for those residents unable to attend in person.

I strongly encourage residents to provide feedback to the Management team on how they are doing; both positive and negative feedback is encouraged. Additionally, please feel free to contact me directly if there are issues that you have addressed to Management and you are not comfortable that the appropriate action has been taken. Just drop a note in my mail box at the front desk or send me an email at johnniemoore@worldnet.att.net.

Thank you for your continued support. Skyline House is a wonderful place to live, and we will continue to do everything necessary to ensure the property continues to be recognized as one of the best condominium residences in the Greater Washington Area.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE HOUSE SPECIAL welcomes brief comments from its readers. Limit your letters to 250 words or less and include your name and unit number. The Association Board reserves the right to refuse incorrect or improper statements. Committee reports must be submitted to the Editor by the 23rd of each month or NLT 3 days after mtg.

Information for **THE HOUSE SPECIAL** may be sent by e-mail to the Editor, dropped off at the Management office or the reception desk.

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General Manager Gusbey Silva

It's hard for me to realize it, but next month marks the beginning of my fourth year here at Skyline House. As we all know, there have been many changes during this time, most of which have been for the better. However, it is inevitable that problems continue to arise in our physical plant and property over which, like old age, none of us have control, so our responses have to be the best remedies available. Through the diligence and involvement of the members of our various Committees and our Board members, we in Management have benefited greatly from your experience and active participation in making difficult and complicated decisions. We thank you for your assistance.

Allow me also to thank the many residents who are concerned enough to go to the trouble to bring matters to our attention that we have not noted or, in some instances, not reacted to as promptly as you, and perhaps we ourselves, think we could or should have. But, in a special appeal to you all, do give us the opportunity to do our jobs better by notifying us of matters that you, as neighbors, feel should be corrected by us in Management, your representatives. If we don't reply in what you consider to be a reasonable time, do give us another try and ask us "What are you doing about the concerns that I have reported?" I guarantee that we'll do our best to address what you've gone to the trouble to bring to our attention or we will explain what's happening to your communication. You really do help us to do our jobs. We greatly appreciate the trouble that you go through and your active participation toward the betterment of our community.

Planters Waterproofing / Garage Exterior Walls Repairs

The waterproofing of the planters and garage walls repairs has been completed.

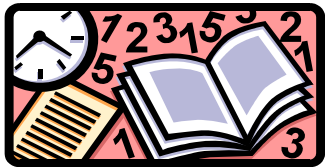
Additionally, Al Chavies Construction Co. completed the repair of a leak at the joint between the north garage wall and the bridge connecting to the East building. Following the directions of our consultant engineer, metal flashing was installed around the joint to prevent future water leaks. Caulking around the bridge windows was also replaced.

Skyline House Main Street Signs

The new signs have been ordered and the installation will be completed by the second week of July.

Please Be Vigilant

An automobile was stolen from one of the reserved parking spaces located behind the West building during the last week of June. Please be vigilant, secure all the doors of your vehicle, and do not leave items in plain sight that might attract attention. Even if you do not drive your car frequently, please check it on a daily basis. We have put our security officers on alert. We are also in the process of adding a security camera in the area behind both buildings.



I welcome your letters/articles that you would like to have published in our House Special. If you have a favorite interest that you would like to share, please send it to me. I'm always looking for information that I think might be of interest to you.

Thank you to our Muslim neighbors!

The Sharing of your culture on May 23, 2002, was much appreciated and enlightening.

To meet Sheik Yusuf Estes, originally from my own hometown in Texas, made the evening even more surprising and special for me!!

Marguerite E. Miller
Skyline House 1214 West



Financial Management Committee Betty Weber, Chair

Although the Finance Committee did not meet this month due to many members being out of town, the Document Review Sub-Committee and Committee members reviewed the Gardner Engineering proposal to perform consulting services and the proposal from Clarke Design Associates for the refurbishment of furniture in the West and East party rooms. We concurred with the PPOC's recommendations with comments.

A review of Association year-to-date financial statements for through May 31, 2002, reveals that our income to date totals \$1,309,084; year to date operating expenditures total \$811,266; and reserve contributions total \$458,568 leaving us with a net income after taxes of approximately \$34,000.

For the month ending May 31, 2002, the Reserve Account balance stands at \$1,559,420 with total year-to-date reserve expenditures of \$245,079. Major reserve expenditures to date include payments of \$34,000 for lobby furniture; \$25,000 for domestic water pumps; \$13,500 for first floor lighting fixtures; \$44,500 for garage doors; and \$104,000 for elevator renovations. Payments are still pending for planter waterproofing which is nearing completion.

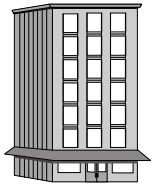
The next FMC meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 16, 2002 in the West Party Room.

Security, Fire and
Safety Committee
Terry G. Sakellos, Chairman



There was no Security, Fire and Safety Committee meeting in June, therefore, no report is submitted.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 10, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Card Room



**Physical Plant
And Operations Committee
George Beams
And Kurt Bedenbaugh**

The PPOC met on June 13, 2002, in the West Card Room.

The General Manager reported that the waterproofing of the planters on the Plaza was completed. She also noted the problem with the crows behind the West building.

On two different occasions, letters have been sent to various Fairfax County offices with little response. Due to complaints from residents and the lack of response from the County, the Chairman of the Board of Directors recommended to Management that PPOC bring a recommendation to the Board that the trees behind the West building be cut down. After discussing the matter, the Committee voted unanimously against cutting down the trees and voted unanimously to reject the recommendation.

The committee recommended sending registered/return receipt letters to the Fairfax County Supervisors, Fairfax County Health Department, and the Mason District County Supervisor stressing the danger of the West Nile Virus. The Committee then passed the following motion: PPOC unanimously rejects the solution to crow infestation by removing the trees behind the West building and instead have Management send registered letters to Fairfax County Offices that would be involved with such a problem.

Management presented a proposal from Gardiner Engineering to perform engineering consulting services for repairing and sealing walls of the East and West buildings. The West building in 2002 and the East in 2003. Payment for such services will be \$17,330 for 2002 and \$8,750 for 2003. Funds are available in budgeted consulting fees.

The Committee approved the proposal unanimously and the following motion was made: It

is moved that the bid from Gardner Engineering for repairing and sealing of the end facades of the West and East buildings be accepted with payments of \$17,330 in 2002 and \$8,750 in 2003 from the budgeted consulting funds category.

Management presented a proposal from Clarke Design Associates to rebuild and recover the eight sofas in the West and East Party Rooms. The fabric design will match the striped chairs previously in the Lobby. These chairs are currently in storage and will be moved to the party rooms when the current sofas are returned from the upholsterer. The Decorating Committee concurred with this proposal. After a brief discussion, the following motion was passed: It is moved that the proposal of \$11,278.43, submitted by Clarke Design Associates, for the rebuilding and recovering of the sofas located in the West and East party rooms be accepted.

The new Skyline House signs will be installed the second week of July.

The "Property Inspection" was held June 23rd. Three residents attended. The group visited the recently restored Plaza behind the East building. One of the residents brought up the crow problem and was in favor of removing the trees as a solution. The General Manager said the trees are scheduled for trimming shortly and also wants to wait for the results of the mailings to the County.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. The next PPOC meeting will be held Thursday, July 11, 2002, in the West Card Room.



**Covenants Committee
Joseph Livingston, Chairman**

The Covenants Committee will meet on July 17, 2002, in the West Card Room at which time, the Committee will address the Board's directive to review Rule 24D of the Rules and Regulations, which currently restricts the use of the swimming pool on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. until closing to persons over age 16.

At the Board's last meeting, it modified that provision, pending a review of Rule 24D by the Covenants Committee. The results of the Committee's review and a recommendation will be provided to the Board at the August meeting.

With respect to pool usage since the Board's action, Management has reported no problems and there appears to have been no significant increase in usage during the 5:00 p.m. to closing time frame.

At the Board's last meeting, the Committee submitted four (4) additional rules for consideration. A number of Board members suggested changes. The Committee will act on those changes at its July meeting.



Neighborhood Watch Judith York, Coordinator

Last month, we celebrated one-year of operation of the Neighborhood Watch program. I would like to thank all our volunteers—those who joined initially and could not continue because of ill health or workload or moved to a new location, etc. and those who are still helping out. From our first meeting on June 21, 2001, at which seven hardy souls attended, to our high of 60 members in September/October 2001, to our present roster of 30 stalwart volunteers, it's been an interesting but effective year.

The volunteers have made a big difference to Skyline House security and to the attractiveness of our community by reporting incidents to the security guards; repairs in the maintenance log, cars with no decals to the Management office, and securing unlocked doors throughout the East and West buildings. Of course, we always welcome new, and returning, volunteers. If interested in giving one hour a week to our program, please call me at 703-671-2267.

Latest information from the Mason District Newsletter:

ROBBERIES –

Be especially alert in parking lots. Across Northern Virginia, there have been several reports of suspects waiting in their vehicle for victims, then displaying a handgun and demanding money or a purse – the main suspect is described as a black male in his 20's or 30's, 5'8" to 5'10," around 200 lbs, with a light mustache. Those waiting in the vehicle are also black males. Their vehicle is described as dark (maroon or black), boxy, older American sedan, possibly a Lincoln or a Cadillac, and possibly with tinted windows.

IDENTITY FRAUD –

Central website for information can be seen on www.consumer.gov/idtheft.

Some ways in which people can steal your identity are to: steal wallets or purses containing your identification and credit/bank cards, steal mail, including bank and credit card statements and other information; rummage through your trash (or the trash of businesses); find personal information in your home, or use personal information you share on the Internet.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATORS

- Meetings are at 7:00 p.m. on July 9, 2002, October 8, 2002, and December 10, 2002, followed by CAC meeting at 7:30 p.m. to which everyone is invited.

OPEN TRAINING SESSION FOR WATCH PATROL MEMBERS – Will take place on August 20, 2002, and again on December 12, 2002, at 7:00pm at the Mason District Police Station. All volunteers must attend one of these meetings, and must be certified prior to participating in any Fairfax County Neighborhood Watch Programs.

The Editor submits additional information from the Internet

Other ways that someone can steal your identity. By co-opting your name, Social Security Number, credit card number, or some other piece of your personal information for his own use. In short, identity theft occurs when someone appropriates your personal information without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft.

Here are some ways that identity thieves work:

- They open a new credit card account, using your name, date of birth, and Social Security Number. When they use the credit card and don't pay the bills, the delinquent account is reported on ***your*** credit report.
- They call your credit card issuer and, pretending to be you, change the mailing address on your credit card account. Then, your imposter runs up charges on your account. Because your bills are being sent to the new address, you may not immediately realize there's a problem.
- They establish cellular phone service in your name.
- They open a bank account in your name and write bad checks on that account.



Recreation Committee
Tony DiSalvo
Chairman

The Flea Market tentatively scheduled for June has been rescheduled for about the third week in August. Details later.

The next TGIF is scheduled for Friday, July 12, 2002, 6:30 p.m., East Party Room. The change to the second Friday is due to long 4th of July weekend.

If you are a resident and have not attended the monthly TGIF, make this your first and meet your neighbors; to make it easier, you are requested NOT to bring a plate of hors d'oeuvres, just your own liquid refreshment.

COMING EVENTS

TGIF, Friday, July 12, 6:30 p.m., East Party Room.



Good Neighbor Committee
Co-Chairs

Toska Prather 703-379-7849
 Ann Preston 703-031-7679

Good Neighbors for June 2002

Sher Cuzzivoglio 703-379-1395
Stephaney Keyser 703-671-8545

The Good Neighbors are available to assist all residents who are in need of temporary help due to sickness or emergency. We need new members. Please call one of the co-chairs and join us.

Spotlight By Starlight Summer Concert Series

"Spotlight by Starlight" is a free summer concert series. All performances at the amphitheatre, located at 6621 Columbia Pike, will be performed on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays and begin at 7:30 p.m. Performances for children on Saturdays (not listed below) begin at 10 a.m. Shows are cancelled in the event of rain. The park telephone number is 703-941-1730.

August Schedule

2	Fri.	7:30 p.m.	Tohoko Koto Society
3	Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Fairfax Symphony "OTO BrassQuintet"
4	Sun	7:30 p.m.	Annandale Orchestra
7	Wed.	7:30 p.m.	Orpheus Jazz Orchestra
9	Fri.	7:30 p.m.	"Yarawi" Musical Art of the Andes
10	Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Alice McGill
11	Sun	7:30 p.m.	Navy Band "The Cruisers"
14	Wed.	7:30 p.m.	Ray Kaminsky Band
16	Fri.	7:30 p.m.	Signoretto
17	Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Fairfax Symphony "OTO BrassQuintet"
18	Sun.	7:30 p.m.	Bull Run Cloggers
21	Wed.	7:30 p.m.	Hailey Schenberg Quartet
23	Fri.	7:30 p.m.	The Continentals
24	Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Under the Sea
25	Sun.	7:30 p.m.	Ted Doc' Dikman Bank
28	Wed.	7:30 p.m.	Laurie and her Boggedykatz Musicians"
30	Fri.	7:30 p.m.	Air Force Bank "Silver Wings."

SPECIAL EVENTS AT SKYLINE HOUSE July 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 LIBRARY OPEN 7:00-8:00 FCR	2	3	4  Independence Day	5	6
7	8 LIBRARY OPEN 7:00-8:00 FCR	9	10 SECURITY 7:00 P.M. WCR	11 PPOC 7:00 P.M. WCR	12 TGIF 6:30 P.M. EPR	13
14	15 LIBRARY OPEN 7:00-8:00 FCR	16 FIN MGT 7:00 P.M. WCR	17 COVENANTS 7:00 P.M. WCR	18	19	20
21	22 LIBRARY OPEN 7:00-8:00 FCR	23	24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS 7:00 P.M. WCR	25	26	27
28	29 LIBRARY OPEN 7:00-8:00 FCR	30	31			

**Skyline House Unit Owners' Association, Inc.,
3711 South George Mason Drive
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