



Several entries have been submitted in the "Title Your Newsletter" contest. Our appreciation to Joan Dawson 116-W, G. Krumwiede 608-W, Marguerita and Leonard Poulito 906-E, Jackson/Butts 313-W and Elizabeth Grant 1408-W. Why don't you join the "in-crowd" and send us an entry? To - Marden Kimball, 513-W. The final decision will be made by the judging committee and announced in the April Newsletter. Reminder: SKYLines is the mast-head of the Skyline Plaza News.

# INVOLVEMENT BRINGS JOY!

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## **Condo living takes a bit of common sense**

By Michael J. Nosanov  
Special to The Christian Science Monitor

As a new condo buyer, you should be aware that only you and your fellow owner-partners are responsible for the financial strength of your complex.

This means that any extraordinary expenses are still your responsibility. If necessary, the board can assess each owner his pro rata share of these expenses.

In other words, it really doesn't matter that much what your monthly fee is. When it comes to maintenance, you can pay it now or you can pay it later.

This brings up the matter of the board of directors. Any condominium board of directors has growing pains as it tries to cope with new situations. This is why many associations have staggered terms for their directors. In that way, there will always be at least one or two experienced hands on the board.

All too often a new condo owner believes that a meeting of the owners, or their representatives, is nothing more than a meeting of all the partners, for the exclusive purpose of staying up into the wee hours of the night fussing about every little detail of the complex.

The typical board of directors means well. They always mean well. But your board is managing a business with many partners.

The board meetings are frequently well attended, especially whenever controversial items are to be discussed. At the board meeting, the board must manage a crowd as well as its business.

The board member-homeowners may be new residents themselves. Often the future of a million-dollar enterprise is in the hands of board members who have no training in managing people, money, or property.

Fortunately, there are several simple steps that condo owners can take to help the board:

- Elect members that have management experience. If no such candidates exist, elect someone willing to learn how well-run businesses operate.

- Insist that Roberts Rules of Order are followed, even if this means the appointment of a parliamentarian.

- Be sure the board adopts and lives up to rules of procedure. For example, some boards insist that all motions must be in writing, even if they are handwritten on the spot.

- Stick to the business at hand. Demand an agenda in advance of the meeting, and avoid inflammatory or emotional language when you're there.

People basically have enough common sense to do a good job as board members as long as they can take a disciplined approach to running a business and a human approach to dealing with people.

Help the board concentrate on its duties by giving it a chance to do its job.

## CHAIRMEN COMMUNIQUE

### Windows, Latches and Energy Conservation

Some windows at Skyline House have problems. For example the locking latch and mating groove are not always properly aligned. This may cause the two portions of the window to separate. Dulles Glass, the window subcontractor, states this will not create a draft due to the design of interlocking metal strips. Those of us with drafts or air leaks (called infiltration) may choose to disagree. There are several possible routes for infiltration. Among them are poor caulking, missing weatherstripping or bowed or misaligned windows. The latter will cause infiltration at the upper and lower corners of the juncture of the sliding and fixed sections of the window. Very badly misaligned windows may not fully close, and this will defeat all of the weather protection features. If you have or suspect that you have problems with drafty windows you might wish to contact customer service to see if the problem can be corrected or at least improved. If your windows lock with great difficulty or not at all, while not an energy problem, it could be a security problem. Customer service can usually correct this condition too.

For those on the sunny side of the building, keep drapes and blinds open on cold and sunny days to help heat your unit (for free!) To reduce heat loss at night or when there is no sun, close shades and drapes.

We have been investigating a number of items that may be used to help weather-strip and seal doors and windows. Some are purported to be quite effective; all that we have seen are genuinely ugly, however. Any good building products supplier (such as Hechingers or Scotts) is a good source of information, samples, and literature on these items. (Jerry Lagace, 806E; Gordon Frank, 1111W)

### More Energy Matters: Comfort and Cold Rooms

Rooms in some units are quite uncomfortable during the cold weather. A simple and inexpensive way to increase the temperature and to simultaneously conserve energy is to insulate the exterior wall electrical and telephone outlets. This can easily be done by any adult in less than an hour with a package of materials that costs less than \$5.00. The materials consist of sealers which are inserted behind the small rectangular electrical outlet wall plates, and behind those telephone plates where telephones are not installed. Also included in the package are plastic caps which are inserted into electrical outlets that are not used.

Hechinger's sells an insulation package under the name "Draft Sealers Economy Kit" for about \$4.95. Other kits are available elsewhere. The installation of the materials in one unit transformed exceedingly uncomfortable areas into very pleasant ones by raising the temperature several degrees.

Two points of interest. First, do shut off the electricity before installing any materials. Second, exterior walls (the only walls whose outlets need be insulated) are all walls other than those that separate rooms within a unit. Exterior walls therefore include those that face neighboring units. (Jerry Lagace, 806-E)

11-11-77:

The following information was annotated from notes taken by Mrs. Margaret Collett, 803-B at a recent fire safety meeting presented by the Fairfax Fire Department.

1. There is no such thing as a fire proof building - fire resistant, perhaps.
2. Each individual is responsible for his own safety -
  - (a) Don't assume someone has already telephoned the fire department because you hear the fire alarm. Always call them directly.
  - (b) remaining calm is most important.
  - (c) Your worst enemy is smoke, heat and gases. A coroners report on the MGM Grand Hotel fire in Las Vegas stated the primary cause of death was from toxic fumes.
  - (d) Familiarize yourself with both stair exits from the floor, and the internal alarm box located beside the exit doors.
  - (e) If one awakes to fire in the apartment - roll out of bed to the floor, S L O W L Y, breathe cautiously. Crawl in smoke. Touch the front door for heat. If hot, stay in apartment. Seal off cracks around floors and vents with wet towels or blankets. Signal from the window, or call the fire department and tell them where you are, even if they are already on the scene. If door is cool, open door S L O W L Y. If hall is clear, proceed to stair exit. Leave door unlocked. Do not use elevator.
3. Reminders:
  - (a) Do not store flammable materials.
  - (b) Do not leave electric blanket on all day long with bedding doubled back.
  - (c) Do not use rope ladders.
  - (d) Do not use elevators.

Skyline House buildings systems were inspected during and after construction. There are periodic inspections as well. 7 - 9 pieces of fire equipment are available for these buildings and should respond within 3 - 4 minutes.

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#### NEWS FROM MANAGEMENT

The Elections are Coming! This is an exciting time for a condominium association, because this is the period when unit owners can begin to select their elected leaders. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Ron Paolella, will entertain nominations from the general membership of the condominium. Do you know someone who would really help to make Skyline House a success? Then, give Ron their name on a Nominating Form.

Would you rather participate in seeing that Election is run properly, and the all rules for a good election are followed? Then you will want to join the Elections Committee, chaired by Merrill Collett. The Elections Committee makes up the ballots, codes the ballots, works with the Nominations Committee to put together the Election Package which goes to each unit owner.

Articles IV and V of the By-Laws clearly detail the procedures for elections, along with the responsibilities of the Board of Directors.



V O I E

**The People's  
Choice**

IMPORTANT

ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

IN MID TO LATE APRIL, AN ELECTION WILL BE HELD TO ELECT SEVEN (7) MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE "SKYLINE HOUSE UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION." THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE IS ENCOURAGING RESIDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. (APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MAIN DESK.)

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY MARCH 7TH WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS A PACKAGE BY THE COMMITTEE TO THE UNIT OWNERS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE NOMINATION PROCESS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL ANY OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Aagot L. Collett	578-3770
Margaret L. Gassler	931-6984
Julian H. Gelenter	998-7289
Marden Kimball	820-1273
John N. Paoletta	379-5874
Barbara N. Seymon	578-1873

## STAFF NOTES

We are pleased to welcome Ed and Beverly Barstow to Skyline House. Ed joins our building maintenance and engineering staff on March 2, 1981. Originally from Kansas, Ed has over sixteen years experience in the Washington Metropolitan area in condominium and other types of multi-family building maintenance.

Lee Dickason who works the weekday, 3:00P.M. to 11:00P.M. shift at the front desk has decided to enjoy the benefits of being a housewife. Lee won't be leaving us entirely though, she will continue on a part-time basis substituting for front desk personnel.

Tom Hill who recently began training with Lee will take over her shift.

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POT LUCK DINNER GOURMET - by popular request

BEEF & BREW - Pat Denny, 712-W

Serves twelve

Ingredients: 5 lbs. stewing beef, cut into  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " cubes  
Flour, seasoned with salt and pepper  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup olive oil  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup butter  
8 sliced medium onions  
3 tbsp flour  
4 cups dark beer (2 large bottles dark Lowenbrau)  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup brandy  
Bouquet garni: 1 clove garlic  
4 pieces celery  
5 sprigs parsley  
2 bay leaves  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp thyme  
2 tsp Worcestershire sauce  
Salt and pepper  
1 cup chopped parsley (garnish)

Steps: 1. Preheat oven to 350 F.  
2. Dredge beef cubes in flour.  
3. Heat olive oil in 5 to 6 qt. ovenproof casserole or dutch oven.  
4. Brown meat, small portion at a time, over mid-high heat.  
5. While meat is browning, melt butter in large skillet over low heat. Saute onions until golden and add to meat.  
6. Add 3 tbsp. flour to skillet in which onions were cooked, stirring over medium heat to make a light brown roux. Slowly add beer and brandy and stir until slightly thickened. Add this sauce to meat and onions.  
7. Tie bouquet garni ingredients in cheesecloth bundle and place in casserole.  
8. Stir in thyme and Worcestershire.  
9. Cover and bake 2 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours or until meat is tender.  
10. Remove bouquet garni. Season to taste with salt and pepper.  
11. Garnish with parsley.

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RECREATION ..... by Don Flynn



--8--4--4--8 !! Now that I have your undivided attention, this LCB is from your friendly (but frazzled) Recreation Committee. If our social programs are in now, or even continue on a regular basis, it is IMPERATIVE that we have more volunteers on this Comm. It's unfortunate that the Chicken Dinner planner for Feb. had to be cancelled, but it was .... and mainly because there weren't enough hands on deck to handle the flyer preparation, distribution, reservation collection, purchasing the necessary foodstuffs & supplies, setting up the Party Room, etc., etc. Too few have done too much in the past couple of months & most of our volunteers hold down full time jobs. We need more of you that are retired, or semi-retired, home during the day, & willing to donate some of your time & talent. Please contact Bernice Kaminsky (716-L) & attend our next scheduled Feb. Comm. meeting.

Wasn't the Pot Luck Dinner fun? ... such good food! More than 80 of us attended ... a fun evening. The entrees (which went the fastest) ranged from barbecued ribs, chicken, ham, beef in beer, quiche, spaghetti, tuna casseroles, & on & on. We had salads & more salads, every shape, color & form. The desserts were all gorgeous, with at least a zillion calories on display! See what you missed? Do plan to come to our next one!

Noting how quickly people registered for the Tax Shelter Seminar, I'm sure the "Women & Money Management" classes in March will be just as popular. (If not more so.) To quote a few statistics: women now hold 1.9 million American Express cards, an increase of 171% in the past 6 years; women represent 50.3% of all adult stockholders, according to the NYSE, & approximately 12 million women own stock or mutual fund shares; women bring home paychecks totaling more than \$250 billion each year; & women control the spending of about half a trillion dollars a year! (With all that \$\$\$ power, ladies, I expect to see lots of you at the March seminar to learn more about stocks, mutual funds, money market funds, etc.)

If you're as fascinated with the Stock Market as I am, then this bit of poetic humor should appeal to you: "Periodic market corrections never catch me by surprise, For I know something's wrong & needs correcting when my stocks are on the rise!" (Alan Lund: are you smiling??)

On to our Birthday people: In February we have ORLANDO TROXEL celebrating on the 15th & WAYNE KRUMWIEDE on the 20th. March greetings go to: MILDRED LEMPE (2nd) BERNICE KAMINSKY (9th) BOB HENSEN (14th) and BILL WHITE (20th). Have a Good One, all of you!

My trivia for the month is about hugging. (Don't laugh yet .. I'm serious!) Scientifically, "a hug is a transfer of positive energy from one person to another & works wonders in reducing stress. The warmth & spontaneity of a hug, the affectionate, comforting feeling of transmitted strength, is as good for the hugger as for the huggee". So say the Doctors. Besides that, it's fun. (I've enjoyed hugging all these years & didn't even know how therapeutic it was!) Try it ... you'll like it!

Quip-for-the-day: When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot & hang on.

'Til the next time .....

Notice to all subscribers: In order to start that you pick up, on a regular basis, all forms, newsletters, calendar of events etc. at the front desk. There will no longer be "over-the-door" delivery. Stay informed.

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Deadline for submitting articles for April Newsletter - March 15.

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### WELCOME TO THE TATER FAMILY

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the tater family. The Taters are the leading citizens of condominiums everywhere. You will surely find yourself somewhere among the Taters.

First, let me introduce you to SPECK. Speck Tater always comes to the meetings; in fact, he never misses a meeting. If the discussion is interesting, he smiles; if it is boring, he yawns. But he never takes part in the discussion; never makes a suggestion; never volunteers for a job. He just sits there.

Now there is EMMA Tater. Emma is an agreeable girl. It's so much easier to let someone else do her thinking that she just sits back. But if someone else ventures an idea, Emma just loves to second the motion; and when the chairman puts a question to the vote, Emma's "aye" is loudest of all.

This is DICK Tater. Dick belongs to five organizations and he runs them all. He is a great help to the officers because he can always tell them what to do. If the president hesitates, Dick jumps in and takes over. Members soon find out that the solution to problems requires an expert and they yield the floor to him.

Next we meet AGGI Aggi Tater never misses a trick. She keeps the meetings lively. If things are going along smoothly, Aggi can always be counted on to throw a wrench into the machinery.

Here is COMMON Tater. He never has an original idea; and he never does a thing; but if you do something he's right there to tell you how you should have done it. He won't take an office himself, but when someone else takes office, Common Tater tells him just how to do his job.

Next meet HESSY Tater. Hessy does not think the committee should take on too much. Why get rid of the termites? It costs a lot of money, besides no one has fallen through the floor yet. Let's wait a little while.

Last we meet SWEET Tater. Everybody loves her. She's cooperative, and the first to volunteer for a job. If someone else falls down on a job she steps in and finishes it. She does everything she is asked to do, and she will help you too, when you call on her.

Did you see yourself reflected in one of these personalities?

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SKYLINE HOUSE  
UNIT OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR

# MARCH

# 1981

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Recreation Committee 7:30 P.M. WCR	3 Architectural Control 8:00 P.M. WCR Investments Workshop* 7:30 - 9:00 PM WPR	4 Ash Wednesday Slimnastics* 10 A.M. WPR	5 Slimnastics* 7 P.M. WPR	6 Cocktail Party 6:30 P.M. WPR	7
8	9 Security/Fire Safety Committee 8:00 P.M. WCR	10 Owner Involvement Committee 8:00 P.M. WCR Investments Workshop* 7:30 - 9:00 PM WPR	11 Slimnastics* 10 A.M. WPR	12 Physical Plant Committee 8:00 P.M. WCR Slimnastics* 7 P.M. WPR	13	14
15	16 Budget & Finance Committee 8:00 P.M. WCR	17 St. Patrick's Day Wine & Cheese Party* 7:30 PM WPR Ad Hoc Advisory Board 8:00 PM WCR	18 Slimnastics* 10 A.M. WPR	19 Operations Committee 8:00 P.M. WCR Slimnastics* 7 P.M. WPR	20	21
22	23	24 Women & Money Management Seminar 7:30 P.M. WPR	25 Slimnastics* 10 A.M. WPR	26 Slimnastics* 7 P.M. WPR	27	28
29	30	31 Card Night 7:30 P.M. WCR Women & Money Management Seminar 7:30 P.M. WPR	Coming Events: Apr 3 - Cocktail Party		WPR-West Party Room WCR-West Card Room * - Reservations Required, see back of calendar March	

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



St. Patrick's St. Anne's Irish Party ..... 7:30 - 9:30 P.M.  
West Party Room. Advance payment of \$2.00 per person required. Watch for  
details.

Cocktail Party ..... Friday, March 6, 8:30 P.M., West Party Room. Everyone's  
invited: couples, singles, and guests of course. No charge. No reservations  
required. Bring your own drinks, mixes, or wine, a snack for two.  
Casual dress. Come join us!

Gymnastics ..... Continuation of eight week classes, Wednesdays at 10:30 A.M.  
or Thursdays at 7:30 P.M. in the West Party Room. Reservations required,  
flyers with details were distributed previously.

Workshop on Tax-Free Tax-Sheltered and Tax-Deferred Investments .... Continuation  
of Tuesday session workshops. 7:30 until 9:30 P.M., West Party Room. Pre-  
sented by Ferris & Co., Inc. Reservations required, flyers with details  
already distributed.

Women and Money Management Seminar ..... Three Tuesday sessions begin March 24.  
7:30 - 9:30 P.M., West Party Room. Presented by Ferris & Co., Inc. Due  
to limited space reservations will be required. Watch for details.

Card Night ..... Tuesday, March 31, 7:30 P.M., West Card Room. All types of  
card games: bridge, canasta, poker, or your favorite. Bring cards, etc.

Committee Meetings ..... All residents are invited to attend and listen or  
become an active participant. Meetings scheduled for this month are  
listed below. Unless otherwise noted all meetings are held in the West  
Card Room at 8:00 P.M.

Ad Hoc Advisory Board - Tuesday, March 17  
Architectural Control - Tuesday, March 3  
Budget & Finance - Monday, March 23  
Operations - Thursday, March 19  
Owner Involvement - Tuesday, March 10  
Physical Plant - Thursday, March 12  
Recreation - Monday, March 2 - 7:30 P.M.  
Security/Fire Safety - Monday, March 9

Other committee meetings will be announced by notices on bulletin boards.

### \*\*\* COMING EVENTS \*\*\*

Friday Cocktail Party - April 3

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In the event the East Building party room is completed during March some  
events may be held in the new party room.  
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April calendar entries should be turned in to Pat Denny, 712W, by March 27, 1981.