

# H.O.A. NEWS

April 2000

## Pool News

The pool season this year will begin **May 1**, the pool will stay open until September 30 every day from 10am until 10pm. We will change the locks on the pool entrance as well as on our basketball and tennis courts in April. New pool keys will be issued to homeowners current on payment of their assessments. If you have not finished paying your dues, we remind you that April 1, 2000 was the due date for your last payment. We will not start charging late fees until after May 1, but now would be a good time to finish paying your dues. Volunteers will be available to issue keys at the pool on **Saturday, April 15** and **April 29** from **10am to 4pm**. You can also get the keys directly from PS Property Management, if you cannot make it at these dates. Together with the pool key, which also opens the tennis and basketball courts, we will provide you with a copy of the common area rules. Please read them carefully; you are responsible if your household members or your guests break these rules. One of the rules we have to enforce repeatedly is entrance to the pool by teenagers. If your children are under 15 years old, they are not allowed in the pool without an adult from your household, who must be 18 or older. If your children (15 or older) would like to bring guests, they must be 15 or older and they must obey all rules as well. The pool monitor has the right to retain a key from any patron that breaks the rules, and the only way you can get this key back is to come to a board meeting.

To kick off the pool season, we will hold a pool party with food, drink, and music in May (yes, we will give away one year's free HOA dues again). Everybody is welcome to this event, even if you do not have your key, yet. Watch for signs and fliers.

We hope that you enjoy our pool and look forward to seeing you there this summer.

## Lap Swimming

Homeowners who would like to enjoy the pool for exercise or health reasons before the regular open swim time, please contact P.S. Property Management who will connect you with the lap swimming committee to arrange for times:

**PS Property Management Company, Tel: 251-6122**

## Christmas Lights contest

The following displays won the 1999 Christmas Lights Contest:

1. Prize: The whole street of Acanthus
2. Prize: 17001 Cactus Blossom Drive
3. Prize: 17000 Simsbrook

## Annual Assessments

We just finished collecting the yearly assessments from you, and most of you have already paid for this year. However, there always seem to be questions about the collection process, so I will try to clarify some points here. As a restricted neighborhood, we are governed by a set of rules, the so-called "Declarations". When you bought your home, you should have received a copy of them (call P.S. Property Management, if you did not). The homeowners of our association elect a board of directors at annual meetings, which conducts the business of the association, including drafting a yearly budget late in the year. Based on this budget, each household is subject to an annual assessment, which is currently set at \$216. The whole amount is due at the beginning of each year, but usually the board provides several payment plans, as soon as the budget is finalized. This year you had a choice to pay in up to five payments, with the last payment due April 1. Our management company informed you of these payment plans early December last year; if you forgot to make your payments by April 1, our management company sent you a friendly reminder after April 15. However, if you still have not paid by May 1, you will receive another reminder, this time with a late fee.

Many homeowners ask us how they could spread the payments even more. Unfortunately, we will not know how much the annual dues are until we have finalized our budget. However, every homeowner can make pre payments to our management company during the year and then adjust the amount once the annual dues are announced. If you start paying in May on a monthly basis, you can pay \$18 a month and your dues will be paid in April of the next year, well within the limits of our payment plans. Many mortgage companies will also allow you to include the assessments as part of your monthly escrow payment (talk to your bank or mortgage company), and they will pay your dues to the association.