



Issue 2017.1

<http://www.silverlakes-gateway-hoa.com/>

January 2017

# Silverlakes News

## **From the HOA President:**

In keeping with the Silverlakes-Gateway HOA Board of Directors' commitment to open and honest communication with the membership, I offer the following comments on the Jan. 18 board meeting:

The year 2016 ended with our spending under budget by 5.7 percent. Our operating and reserve accounts remain, as a chief financial officer has stated, "healthy."

There are still 27 outstanding accounts with one account representing 65 percent of all the outstanding debt. The board remains diligent in its efforts to lower the number of those accounts.

There was an overspending of the Villa ground expenses by \$939 in 2016. That amount will be repaid to the HOA operating account by a transfer from the Villas equity account, negating a need for a special assessment to Villa owners. The Villa equity account still remains in good shape.

Several Architectural Control Committee members have produced samples of roof tile together with wall and trim paint color suggestions for the clubhouse. They are on display in the clubhouse for viewing and voting. The colors chosen will be used on the clubhouse and gatehouse roof, walls and trim. All interested residents are encouraged to cast their votes. A message has been sent out with the viewing times.

The social committee put on 30 events over the past 13 months. Members were able to hold those events without exceeding their budget while having \$130 left over to start this year's activities. The first event for 2017 was a very nice catered Chinese dinner. The next event will be a community breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 4. Thanks to all the Social Committee members for all they do for Silverlakes residents.

The exercise room has had two new floor fans added, replacing the existing fans that have been there for going on 13 years.

At the suggestion of our gate vendor, Main Gate, the Vendor Oversight Committee has had Safety Signal Systems install a new camera focusing on our entry call box. We now have 12 new digital cameras monitoring our common areas for your safety.

Steve Dobson has stepped up to monitor the clubhouse lighting, and any bulbs needing replacement will be LED bulbs. Steve also is monitoring the pool area. If there are any questions concerning the pool area as well as the water temperature, please contact Steve. Thanks, Steve! Florida Power and Light has repaired the malfunctioning streetlight near our entrance.

Since our last meeting in November, our management company, Alliant, has received 160 phone calls concerning our community. All have been resolved.

Also, since our last meeting in November, our CAM, Tabatha Robinson, has sent out 32 first letters and 19 second letters. The board agreed to send out eight fine letters. It was suggested, and the board agreed, that when any second letters are sent out, they be accompanied by a photo of the violation.

Our new website, [www.silverlakes-gateway-hoa.com](http://www.silverlakes-gateway-hoa.com) is up and running. Please make sure this address is entered into your address bar, not your search bar, when accessing. There is no need to register to view the majority of the postings on this website. There are two areas requiring registration to access. Just enter your last name and the first five numbers on the back of your key card.

Speaking of key cards, an increasing number of people under the age of 18 have been observed using the gym without adult supervision. Their parents have been or will be notified. If this continues, their key cards will be turned off. Parents, PLEASE comply with our regulations.

Our annual membership meeting is coming up in March. There will be one position open on the board. I'm on bended knees once again asking for anyone to consider volunteering to be on our board or on one of our committees. It is a very rewarding endeavor, which helps keep our community running smoothly while meeting some of our new neighbors. Just contact any board member to help out.

Once again, I want to thank ALL committee and board members for all they do for Silverlakes. Our next board meeting will be the day after Valentine's Day, Feb. 15. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and safe holiday season, and I would like to wish all Silverlakes residents a very Happy New Year.

**Respectfully submitted by Lauren "Bird" Siegel, president, for the board of directors:  
PJ Stratton, vice president; Jane Grethey, secretary; Markus Albrecht, treasurer; and Claude Marku, legal liaison.**

### **Sunshine Committee:**

The Sunshine Committee sent out eight greeting cards since the last HOA board meeting to residents who were recovering from surgery or illness, welcoming a new child to the family or mourning the loss of a loved one. If you know someone who could use a card, please contact Sue Beard at (239) 689-8065 with the person's name and address. You also can email the information to Sue at shadden@comcast.net

### **In Memoriam:**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Doug Chenoweth, a long-time Silverlakes resident who passed away Sunday, Jan. 22, in Hope Hospice after suffering a massive stroke.

Doug is survived by two daughters, Nan and Nina.

Services will be held at a later date in Gateway Trinity Lutheran Church, where Doug served as head usher.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rick Weber on the recent death of his father in Pennsylvania. In addition to Rick, his father leaves behind his wife and a daughter. Rick has lived in Silverlakes for the past four years.

### **Red Hat Review**

Our December event, lunch at the German-Austrian restaurant in the area behind the Broadway Palm, was a big success. Thirteen lovely ladies, all dressed in purple and wearing red hats, arrived on a beautiful day to dine together. The sun was shining, the temperature was mild, and there was a beautiful breeze.

Our waiter was patient, though over-taxed. We managed to work around that by doing our gift exchange in between his appearances. It worked out well. Every plate was beautiful and appealing. Everyone enjoyed her meal, and many of us had boxes to take home.

Following lunch, those of us who had the time went to the Swedish store near the restaurant and shopped for a bit. A good time was had by all.

On Jan. 12, some 14 of us drove to Buckingham Farms on Orange River Boulevard for lunch. Again, we ate al fresco on a beautiful day. The farms are beautiful, and all food is made to order from fresh ingredients just picked. They offer soups and sandwiches for lunch and also have an extensive breakfast menu.

In the shop attached to the ordering counter can be found lots of fresh produce, local honeys, jams, jellies and assorted other yummy items. They also offer grass-fed meats and sausages, among other things.

Our visit was a big success, and some of us even stopped to check out their 17-year-old tortoise.

Our next event will be a high tea Feb. 9 in our clubhouse. Any ladies over 50 who would like to join us are asked to call Queen Mum Jan Wold at (239) 849-5184.

## Gingerbread House Contest:

Competition was fierce at the second annual Gingerbread House Competition, held Dec. 3 in conjunction with "Breakfast with Santa," when the Jolly Old Elf visits Silverlakes to spend time with families.

This year, there was a 230 percent increase in entries, for a total of seven houses and one railroad car. Unfortunately, the railroad car did not meet the requirements of the contest and was not included in the judging, but the committee enjoyed the creativity that went into the car.

The winners in the Children's Category were Julia Diener, first place; Morgan and Lindsay Fay, second place; and Ryan and Joshua Lawrence, third place. Last year, there was only one participant in the children's group, and she won first place both years. This year's contest drew five!



In the Adult Category, winners were Mary Hardisty, first (pictured); Marilyn Steiner, second; and Ana Amaral, third. Ana was a new contestant this year, and we're hoping the contest continues to draw more people.

Those who attend the Breakfast with Santa receive two tickets to vote on their favorite houses. Everyone enjoyed looking them over, and then making that very difficult choice. Most spent quite a bit of time giving the houses a thorough examination!

In the adult category, it was amazing to see how creative the participants were. Since one of the requirements is that EVERYTHING MUST BE EDIBLE, the houses are not only a decoration for the Christmas season, but can become DESSERT to enjoy throughout the 12 days of Christmas.

How great it is that our community has the Gingerbread House Competition, which gives us the opportunity to display our talents and build great memories of working at a fun family event.

## Chinese Dinner:

The first Social Committee activity of the new year was held Saturday, Jan. 14. A meal catered by China Star in Lehigh Acres drew 74 people to the clubhouse, which was decorated to celebrate the occasion.

We truly have a great Social Committee that plans these events to help bring the Silverlakes community together to meet and greet and get to know one another.

Social Committee members take on a project, plan it, decorate for it, set up for it and then man the event. All members and their spouses work hard to make sure there is an event to appeal to just about everyone.

The old adage "many hands make light work" certainly applied to this event. Ana and John Amaral, Artie and Antoinette Cendali, Carol Egle, Carole Paquin, Cindy Mason, Fran DeRonne, Glenn and Rosemary Donley, Janice Eaton, Marilyn Steiner, Margaret Evans, Pat Macchia, Ray and Sue Beard, Steve and Mary Ann Dobson and Dan and Judy Dobson all had a hand in putting on this event, which was chaired by Judy Dobson. Brothers Dan and Steve Dobson drove to China Star to pick up the meal.



Thank you to those in the community who attended the Chinese Dinner. It was done for you.



## Social Committee Calendar for 2017:

Be sure to mark your calendars so you don't miss out on any of the fun.

This section is Under Repair.  
Please see our website for the most up-to-date  
information from the Social Committee.

### Breakfast With Santa:

