



From the President

While you may have been hibernating, the Fox Hunt Board has been busy getting things in order to open the pool for Memorial Day Weekend. As you may recall, last year saw some needed improvements to the facilities – new paint on the tennis courts, new steps into the pool and new deck furniture.

This year's changes included hiring a new pool management company, performing a review and update of the pool rules, and enhancing the Fox Hunt Web site.

- Despite many years with Clearwater and its successor, NV Pools, we decided it was time for a change and have initiated a contract with Crystal Aquatics. We anticipate a new more attentive approach to day to day pool operations from Crystal.
- During March, the board reviewed the operating rules – and updated them. We clarified the wording on rules pertaining to membership cards, smoking, and the use of diapers and restrictions on toddlers who aren't toilet trained. Please review them as listed separately in this newsletter.
- Last year's initial implementation of the web site was a success. We now have a webmaster, who is also a member of the Board – Karolyn Stewart – whose profession includes development of web sites. Karolyn has added more features and content to the web site since last year, with improved graphics and functionality. Meeting minutes and other important information about the pool are now posted and updated on a regular basis. The plan is to add photos to the site – so if you have some pictures you'd like to see on the site, please send them to Karolyn. Please note the name of the website has changed to www.foxhuntswimclub.org.

The operating costs for the pool and facilities continue to rise. The board works very hard to keep our costs competitive and lower than our neighboring pools, but it is always a challenge. One way to do that is through volunteer help. Every year our pool management company performs a long list of pre-season maintenance tasks that can cost anywhere from \$2,000 – \$10,000 per year! One way to keep these costs down is to perform some of the work ourselves. Some of these tasks are cleaning tasks; others involve painting, plumbing, electrical work, or re-strapping deck chairs. For every task we complete with volunteer help (that means members helping), we are able to put money into improvements. A lack of funds and volunteers has not allowed us to undertake a project to clear the brush behind the decks and turn it into a picnic grove. This is a significant undertaking and one that will require a combination of volunteer and contracted help. If you are interested in leading this effort, please contact one of the board members.

We have scheduled two weekends in May for spring clean-up – April 30-May 1 and May 15-16. Please take a few hours from your busy spring schedule to come over and help spruce up the pool and facilities. We have plenty to do, and no experience is necessary for most jobs. Best of all, you can earn guest passes. We certainly hope you can find the time to help.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the pool,

Bob Alexander