



Well, this was our 6th Christmas here in Conway, at Lakeside Crossing. It is hard to believe how fast time has flown! This community has become our family, just as our Holliday Rambler group was our family on the road for 10 years. The task of life is to adjust to the changes time brings and to know when and how to move on. I think Bob & I were lucky to make the right moves at the right time. Well, I didn't plan on being philosophical in this newsletter, but it just happened.

This year the changes have been the growth of the Lakeside Community, with many new people moving in, adding some new neighbors and making new friendships. On the other side, during this year some of our friends and neighbors have left us by gaining their *angel wings*. This has been with sadness but also with fond memories. Now the primary task is helping each other adjust to those losses and to move on. No pictures are needed for this summary, just the feelings of warmth and love that this community generates.

On a lighter note, anyone who really knows me knows that my favorite flick for Christmas is "Scrooge" also known as "A Christmas Carol"!! So now you are just going to have to put up with my elaboration in this area. Every year I make it a necessity to find the oldest version on TV and watch it. Bob knows this so he has made it possible for me to watch three early versions to date. The first one I saw was the 1951 version, in black and white, and I took a picture of scrooge on TV while watching. Now here is the real kicker! When at the Octoberfest party in October at our Chiropractors, I won 2 tickets to see "Scrooge The Musical" at the Theater of the Republic in Conway. Talk about a perfect prize! As if that was not enough, we sat next to the grandparents of the little girl who played Tiny Tim in the show!! Yes, a girl played the part and she was perfect.

Then, Bob & I made it a point to revisit Conway's Festival of Lights again this year, which we feel is the best in the area. They will be on page 2 with New Years Eve pictures which speak for themselves. We also attended the December Prime Rib dinner in the club house. We sat with our friend Pat who was with her visiting sister for the holidays. This is one of those holidays when family comes here to visit or Lakeside residents leave to visit family elsewhere.



Well, as you will see, we decided to stay home for New Years and watch the freezing people in Times Square, while enjoying some snacks in the warmth of our living room. Even Minnie was enjoying the warmth of our fireplace. My struggle to have a blooming Christmas Cactus finally got some positive results, even if it was only one flower! I think I am finally on the right track. They are still blooming.

