



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

**For immediate release**

Contact: Dixie Prosser  
480-252-2010  
[admin@folaz.org](mailto:admin@folaz.org)

### **Festival of Lights to Hold Community Meeting Tuesday, January 15, 7pm at Ahwatukee YMCA to Discuss the Future of the Non-Profit Volunteer-Driven Group**

Phoenix, AZ, January 8, 2008 – The lights came down on Saturday, January 5th, in record time – thanks to the estimated 70 volunteers who came out to help remove strands from along Chandler Blvd. “The bulk of the work was done by 1pm, with everything being picked up and packed up by 3pm,” said FOL Administrative Director Dixie Prosser. The group has been grateful to have volunteers come out on event days over the years to help out for a few hours, but they are now in dire need of volunteers to serve at the Committee Level to help with the planning of the three main events: the Winetasting Festival and Charity Golf Tournament in June, and the Kick-Off Party in November. These events raise the funds necessary to continue the white light holiday display along Chandler Blvd.

The non-profit 501c3 organization is losing a handful of longtime committee members this year due to various personal circumstances: retirements, family commitments, increased work schedules and moves out of the area, to name a few. “One of our Past Presidents, Dennis Frayer, moved to the West Valley over 4 years ago and he continued to be an integral part of the committee,” said Prosser. “Those of us who are stepping back have been involved for at least 7 years and some since the beginning 13 years ago and we just need a break,” said outgoing President Jim Crouch. The group knew a year ago that there would be some big holes to fill at the end of 2007. Attempts have been made throughout 2007 for members to take over in 2008, but it didn’t pan out as well as needed.

“We have four people leaving the committee now, and two more at the end of 2008, and ideally we’d like to fill those six spots with 12-15 people for each event so the duties are more manageable,” said Prosser. The committee positions range from everything from sponsorship sales to logistics coordination to volunteer scheduling. A complete list of committee openings is available at [www.FOLAZ.org](http://www.FOLAZ.org). “People can serve on a committee year-round or just for one event each year – Winetasting or Golf in June or Kick-Off in November. We’ll take what we can get!,” Prosser said. “We don’t want people to be hesitant to get involved because they know they are always gone for Thanksgiving, or they know the heat will drive them north before June,” she added.



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A community meeting has been planned for Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Ahwatukee YMCA. Anyone interested in serving on a committee is encouraged to attend. "We hope to have all these spots filled with new people on the 15<sup>th</sup>, we've even had some people already step up," Prosser noted.

Community Meeting Details

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When: Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 7pm

Where: Ahwatukee Foothills YMCA, 1030 E. Liberty Lane, 85048 (Desert Foothills Parkway & Liberty Ln)

Details: [www.FOLAZ.org](http://www.FOLAZ.org)

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