



January 2023

# THE PORTHOLE NEWS

The monthly newsletter of the  
Lake Forest Yacht Club



## COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

*Vanessa Luke, Commodore*

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone enjoyed time with family and friends over the holidays and had some 'down time' during all of it too. With the start of this new year, my 4 years as a Trustee and current Commodore has come to an end. Looking back, my time on the board has gone by quickly and it's been both a pleasure and an honor to work with membership! Being a part of everything that goes into the club's operations and management has been eye opening and such a worthwhile experience. I'd like to thank Jaime Evans, whose 2<sup>nd</sup> term has also come to an end, for her hard work as a Trustee and our Treasurer and wish her the best! I'd also like to welcome 2 people to the board that are familiar faces to many, Frank Gutowski and Pat Brennan. Both have served on the board previously and have held officer positions in the past. I know that our club is in capable hands with the 7 Trustees we have on board for 2023.



Annual Meeting was held in early December, and attendance was a bit light, so once again I encourage you all to get involved, stay informed, and be a part of the conversations that help drive our club forward. Updates were presented for all aspects of our club's operations, we reviewed upcoming capital improvement priorities, and had some good discussion on topics like security services, in addition to holding our Trustee election. Our next membership meeting will be in May, so watch for announcements and please attend, but of course if you have thoughts or ideas, you don't need to wait until a membership meeting, just reach out to the office or any Trustee using the contact info on page 2. We welcome your perspectives and participation.

On the pages ahead you will find the schedule and details for upcoming social events, like the return of Winterfest, Italian Cuisine & Comedy Night, and LRC/Texas Hold 'Em. We're excited to continue to bring these events to membership and thank you to the volunteers that make them happen. Looking forward to seeing you all soon. Thank you all for your time, as always.

## Club Contact Information

**Office Manager:** Linda Sobieski – Notary Public

**Mailing Address:**

Lake Forest Yacht Club  
PO Box 217  
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849

**Physical Address:**

Lake Forest Yacht Club  
35 Yacht Club Drive  
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849

**Office Phone:** 973-663-0158

**Office Email:** [office@lfyc.org](mailto:office@lfyc.org)

**Website:** [www.lfyc.org](http://www.lfyc.org)

**Office Hours (as of August 1st):**

Wednesday 12 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## Meet the Board of Trustees (officers and responsibilities TBD)

**Frank Gutowski** – Trustee – Responsibilities TBD

**Phone:** 201-679-5837

**Email:** TBD

**Chrissy Gilligan** – Trustee – Responsibilities TBD

**Phone:** 973-632-8734

**Email:** [c.gilligan@lfyc.org](mailto:c.gilligan@lfyc.org)

**James Davitt** – Trustee – Responsibilities TBD

**Phone:** 908-337-4116

**Email:** [j.davitt@lfyc.org](mailto:j.davitt@lfyc.org)

**Kristen Brown** – Trustee – Responsibilities TBD

**Phone:** 973-768-6958

**Email:** [k.brown@lfyc.org](mailto:k.brown@lfyc.org)

**Pat Brennan** – Trustee – Responsibilities TBD

**Phone:** 201-924-6709

**Email:** TBD

**Peter Malenda** – Trustee – Responsibilities TBD

**Phone:** 551-580-0726

**Email:** [p.malenda@lfyc.org](mailto:p.malenda@lfyc.org)

**Keith Moran** – Trustee – Responsibilities TBD

**Phone:** 973-722-1080

**Email:** [k.moran@lfyc.org](mailto:k.moran@lfyc.org)

## Additional Contacts

**Swim Team:** Dan Schultz – Lake Forest Vikings President

**Phone:** 973-876-8974

**Email:** [Dschultz6216@gmail.com](mailto:Dschultz6216@gmail.com)

**Dockmaster:** Frank Gutowski

**Phone:** 973-663-5767

**Email:** [f.gutowski@optonline.net](mailto:f.gutowski@optonline.net)

## Updated Event Schedule!!

Mark your calendars for our upcoming events!

**Seniors Citizen Get Togethers:** Come on down to the club to enjoy games and conversations from 3-5pm. There will be donuts and coffee while supplies last. Upcoming dates: 1/10 & 1/24

**Winterfest:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 from 2-5pm. We will be having indoor and outdoor activities (weather dependent). There will be a Chili Contest (winners will get a ticket to opening day), Charcuterie board potluck, hot chocolate bar, and smores. More information will become available soon. Sign up genius below for attending event and participation in chili contest and charcuterie board.

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/20f0449a9af29a4f58-lfyc4>



### Save the date:

- Italian Cuisine/Comedy Night- Date: 1/28/23
- Super Bowl party- 2/12/23
- Texas Hold-em/LRC night- 3/25/23
- Egg Hunt 4/1/23



### Holiday House Decoration Contest

Winners are:

- 1st place: 1 Crescent Drive
- 2nd place: 91 Yacht Club Drive
- 3rd place: 63 Woodlawn Terrace

Congratulations to our winners!!

## Social Committee Needs You!!

The Social Committee is always looking for help. If you are interested in helping with an event or have ideas for new events, please reach out to Kristen Brown at 973-768-6958 or Desirae Nigro at 908-892-3679.



## LRC & Texas Hold-em Tournament Night

**Date:** March 25th, 2023

Texas Hold'em or Left Right Center

LFYC Members & their guest can pay until March 18th

Entry to 3 rounds of LRC or Hold'em. (Can't play in both events)

\$ 35.00 per person

Gift cards for top 3 finishers in each tournament

Sandwiches, beverages & pizza included.

### Timeline:

**6:15 doors open** – Sandwiches, Beverages, tables established.

**7:00** - Tournament starts

**8:30** - Pizza Break

**10:00 +/-** Final tables for both games established

**10:45 – 11:00PM** - Winners announced

Any questions please call / text Glenn DeSantis 201-294-5003

## Italian Cuisine/Comedy Night Saturday, January 28th 2023 6:30pm



Doors Open at 5:30 PM,  
Dinner Service begins promptly at 6:30 PM

A six-course family style Italian Dinner will be served by  
**The Brownstone** starting at 6:30 pm.



### Cuisine Being Served Family Style:

1. **Cold Antipasto Platter**
2. **Appetizers:** Aborrio Rice Balls, Eggplant Rollatine, Stuffed Mushrooms
3. **Pasta:** Al Ceppo Broccoli Rabe & Sausage, Rigatoni Pasta
4. **Salad:** Caesar Salad
5. **Entrees:** Braised Short Ribs, Chicken Francaise, Shrimp Beeps Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Warm Rolls and Foccacia
6. **Dessert:** Miniature Pastry Trays: Cannoli, Sfogliatelli, Cream Puff, Pasticotti, Éclair, Coffee, Decaf and Tea



Beverages included.

### **Table Competition. Prizes for Top 3 Tables: "Creative Italian Themed Centerpiece"**

Entertainment will follow at 9 PM with (2) Comedians.



**Sandy Marks & Dan Naturman**





## **Boating Safety Course**

Boating Safety First is offering a course and exam sponsored by the Lake Forest Yacht Club to obtain the NJ Boating Safety Certificate (NJ BSC) to operate a Power Boat/PWC (Jet Ski) legally in NJ inland waterways.

**Date:** Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup>

**Address:** LFYC 35 Yacht Club Drive, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849

Course & Exam are 8 am to 5 pm

Check in at 7:30 am

LFYC members student fee is \$80. All others student fee is \$90. Lunch is included. Students will receive the NJ BSC at the completion of the course and passing the exam.

Enroll via email; [f.federico@att.net](mailto:f.federico@att.net) Include name, home address and phone number.

Visit <http://www.boatingsafetyfirst.com/> for course enrollment details, or call Frank at 973-610-1121, with any questions.

## **2023 Scholarship Updates:**

- Frank Gutowski will continue to be chairperson for the 2023 scholarship selection committee
- Scholarship criteria updated for 2023: On line applications only
- The applicant will need to include all documentation with on line application before the deadline of midnight on April 15th. No hand delivery of applications permitted.
- It will be the applicants responsibility to provide proof of timely submission in the event of delivery issue.
- The scholarship selection meeting will take place at the club office the week of April 24th day and time TBD. Expect meeting to be 60-90 minutes.

## Membership Fees

Master lease is due in full 15 days from invoice date. Membership dues may be paid in 2 installments. The 1<sup>st</sup> installment by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> by March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

If you have attained age 65, please contact the office to change your membership status and fees to senior. Proof of age is required.

## Membership Dues and Dock Rentals for 2022/2023

Please be advised that membership dues have been set at the following rates effective 10/1/2022:

### Membership Dues

**Single:** \$423.50 + tax

**Family:** \$550.00 + tax

**Senior:** \$269.50 + tax

### Dock Rental Fees for 2023

Member Dock Rental: \$675.00

Non-Member Dock Rental: \$1959.75

There are no changes to master lease rates and there are no changes at this time to clubhouse rental fees.

## Club Maintenance To-Do List

The Board of Trustees is currently looking for volunteers to help with the following jobs:

- Painting at the Galley (list date 5/22 – this will now wait until spring)
- Replace Timer for Lights in Galley Hallway (list date 5/22)
- Clean and organize storage room in club house (list date 10/22)



If you can volunteer your skills and some time, or would like more information, please reach out to the office to be included in planning! We will update this list on an ongoing basis.

## Help Keep our Club Clean!

- Please remember our club operates with volunteers and everyone's help is needed to keep it maintained!
- Be sure your trash and recycling makes its way to the appropriate bins at the beach, playground, galley, restrooms, patio, and field while enjoying the property.
- Do not overfill the trash and recycling bins or leave any items next to or on top of the bins.
- Place pizza boxes directly in the recycling dumpster – do not stuff into recycling bins.
- If you see trash on the ground, please be kind and pick it up.
- If trash or recycling is full and you are able to take it to the dumpster, the help is much appreciated.
- Smoking is not permitted on the beach or near the galley or picnic tables. Cigarette butts are not to be left on the ground anywhere on the property, including the parking lots.
- Please refrain from moving adirondack chairs, picnic tables, benches. It causes unnecessary wear and tear on these items.
- Close umbrellas in high wind, if a storm is incoming, or when leaving.
- TVs in the galley are continuously being left on overnight. Remotes are provided on the counter for your use – they must be turned off before leaving.



**PLEASE don't do this!!!!**

## Lake Forest Apparel

Stop on down to the office to purchase your Lake Forest Apparel. Currently available at the office for purchase are size medium, large, and x-large t-shirts. Order forms are also available to customize your apparel purchase needs.

## **Electronic Billing & Payment**

We are continuing to offer billing of master lease & membership dues via email, with optional online payment. Please email or call the office to set this up. It is quick and easy to do!

## **Share Important News!**

Send us your other important news like births, birthdays, anniversaries so they can be included in the next porthole! Email the office at [office@lfyc.org](mailto:office@lfyc.org) to have your message included by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## **Order Forms**

Click [here](#) to print a Lake Forest Apparel order form.

Click [here](#) to print a Personalized Patio Stone form.

## **Membership Badges – Car Tags – Gate Keys**

It's important to have the hang tag in your car and your badge with you and visible while on the property.

Guests should have guest passes (available at the office, even when closed) visible on car dashboards and guests must be accompanied by a member while on club property. Gate keys are not to be provided to any non-members for their use without the owner of the key being present. Boat trailers are not to be parked overnight in any of the club lots without prior permission from office, and must be as far as possible from the boat ramp. Thank you for your attention to these items!

## **Babysitters List**

Would you like to be added to this list? We can also add services like Dog Walking to this section, so reach out to the office if you are interested!

- Shanna Leek\* - 973-663-1904
- Samantha Gowers – 201-704-7658
- Rebecca Schultz\* - 973-876-0362
- Elise Gilligan\* - 973-440-7166
- Michela Schultz\* - 973-862-2020

*\*Indicates Red Cross Certification*

## **2023 Boat Slips**

The boat slip renewals and 2023 contracts will be mailed January 1st. In order to renew/apply for a boat slip all members must fill all of the information in the contract and provide a current copy of the registration.

## Community Advertising

Would you like to advertise in our monthly newsletter? Please contact the office for pricing which begins at \$20 per month. Our website averages 14 hits per day



**Regina Ashworth**

**Sales Representative**

**Cell: 973-229-6935**

**Office: 973-584-2300**

**E-mail: [chilypita@aol.com](mailto:chilypita@aol.com)**

**Weichert,  
Realtors<sup>®</sup>**

# LFYC Trustee Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** 12-14-22

**Attendees:** Vanessa, Chrissy, James, Keith, Peter, Jaime, Frank, Pat

**Called to Order:** 6:42

**Adjourned:** 8:42

## Beach, Galley, Lifeguards, Nominating – Vanessa

### **Actions/New Business:**

- Engagement of new members for club involvement more focus for 2023
- Next board meeting selection of officers and responsibilities will take place
- Beach/Lifeguards: Lifeguard pay to be evaluated for 2023

## Secretary/Office/Communications Grants and Scholarships– Chrissy

### **Actions/New Business:**

- Scholarship applications will be on line application going forward
- Upcoming rentals approved by Board

## Treasurer, Financials/Budget/By-laws/Legal/Insurance/Facebook/Wakeoff– Jaime

### **Actions/New Business:**

- Budget and financials overview was reviewed with new board members
- Board will continue to oversee Facebook

## Boat Safety Course /Maintenance/Swim Team – Keith

### **Actions/New Business:**

- Boating Safety instructor to send flyer with sign up information

## Security / Docks/ Tennis – Peter

### **Actions/New Business:**

- Quote in the works for end of B/C dock repair in addition to fingers repair
- Nano-bubbler winterized

## Clubhouse/Grounds – James

### **Actions/New Business:**

- Catwalks need repair before they go back into the water in the Spring.
- Linda to order ladies' bathroom signs in regards to appropriate items to flush to prevent septic issues
- Clubhouse outlet tripping, electrician will be called
- Flagpole- spotlight on ground for is broken. To be fixed along with flagpole rope in Spring
- Clubhouse tables- 5 commercial grade tables will be purchased to replace broken tables
- Credit card fees- current rate is 3.3% of bill for credit card fee. Fix rate is not an option as club is charged by credit card company

## Social/Welcome/Membership – Kristen

### **Actions/New Business:**

- Winterfest – date 1/21. Details to follow
- New members- cookies to be handed out to new members in last 6 months
- Senior Citizens meet up- Paper mailers to senior members to be distributed
- Play dates at club to be discussed at January meeting

# LFYC Annual Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** 12-2-22

**Attendees:** 39

**Trustees:** All present

**Called to Order:** 8:15

**Adjourned:** 9:55

Minutes read from last year: motion to skip by Greg Struble, motion second Mike Kahwaty.

Jaime- Treasurer report: Balance sheet reviewed, Profit & Loss Budget overview reviewed, and Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual reviewed.

## **Beach, Galley, Lifeguards, Nominating – Vanessa**

- Commodore welcome message – 2<sup>nd</sup> term is up at end of year and so time on the board has to end, thank you to Jaime Evans who's 2<sup>nd</sup> term is also up, encouraged volunteerism and spreading the word to any new neighbors, took a deeper dive into financials and club priorities
- Time sensitive issues for 2023: construction loan paydown above and beyond regular payment, natural gas conversion, and dredging and boat ramp repair. Additional projects include B&C planned dock repairs, club house exterior repair, basketball court repairs, shade for beach, and replacement of clubhouse floor all on list.
- Beach/Galley/Life guards update: Feedback from this past year will be taken into account for 2023.
- Great job and thank you to Dan Schultz for all hard work with swim team and nominating committee.

## **Treasurer, Financials/Budget/By-**

### **laws/Legal/Insurance/Facebook/Wakeoff– Jaime**

- Wakeoff will be 8/12/23
- Facebook not official board duty but board overseas it.
- All insurances up to date.

## **Secretary/Office/Communications Grants and Scholarships– Chrissy**

- Great job and thank you to our office manager, Linda, for all her hard work and dedication.
- Updated version of the Porthole is a big hit. It will continue to email to the community and have a few hard copies in office.
- Scholarship updates read and will be listed in the porthole and emailed to the community. A big thank you to Frank Gutowski for his continued hard work with the scholarship program.

## **Clubhouse/Grounds – James**

- Landscaper update– Using the same service going forward. There will be a minimal increase due to inflation.
- Dredging estimates being obtained. Need to figure out plan with dredged material.
- Kayak rack- replace with what we currently have existing would be \$900 non stained, material to build own rack around \$400. New fixture holds 12-14 kayaks. Room for 2 more new racks. Took about 5 hrs. of man time to put together plus time to precut lumber.
- Grounds- septic issue that arose currently being repaired
- Clubhouse – Walls painted over the summer. Renters asked to not tape stuff to the walls. Floors recently refinished and at some point, will need to be replaced.
- A lot goes on behind the scenes to keep the club running, same people all the time volunteering to get stuff done at the club, please help get word out to the community that we need all families to volunteer.

## **Security / Docks/ Tennis – Peter**

- Docks: All 85 docks rented to members only, \$49,000 income, swim team dock area updated along with lighthouse memorial project. End of B & C dock will need to be fixed this coming year along with any fingers and end of B dock collapse issue. Quote in the works, repairs done before April 1<sup>st</sup>. We are expecting all members only again. Boat ramp repair needed. Quotes needed for this coming year to potentially repair.

- Kayak rack update project done. These new racks will need to be stained and volunteers needed to do this.
- Weedoo machine issue with electric motor, ran on 12-volt motor but not strong enough, next season will try outboard motor but eventually new electric 24-volt motor needed.
- Nanno bubbler machine- ran most of season but once lake level dropped had to turn off. Machine will be winterized this coming Saturday. State funding ending so we will need to pay to maintain it next year. We can either give machine away to keep to own.
- Security- uneventful year, new camera for swim dock and light house area. Camera installation on basketball court and BC dock parking to be done if budget allows. Solar lights to be installed near kayak racks.
- Tennis Court – Thank you again to Tom Preston for fixing the cracks that showed up this past year. Outside netting needs to be fixed, secured. At some point new netting will need to be purchased.
- Mike Kahwaty said thank you James Davitt for time on new kayak rack along with Peter Malenda and Mike Espinoza

#### **Social/Welcome/Membership – Kristen**

- Thank you to Desirae Nigro for help with social this past year. Had a great year of events and goal of social committee is to cater to all age groups for social events. Volunteers still needed. Next event is Winterfest date 1/21 to include camp fire, ice skating, games, hot dogs, etc. Santa breakfast is tomorrow and a thank you to Terry and Carly Costigan for their help executing this event and Shawn Cooney for dressing up as Santa. Comedy night date 1/28 Italian cuisine 140 attendees 90 lake forest attending. Less than 10 seats remaining. Thank you to Frank Gutowski for running this event. LRC/ Texas hold-em event will be in March and thank you to Glenn DeSantis for running this annual event.
- No alcohol will be served at unpaid events (example: bands on the beach), exceptions could be after annual meeting, semi-annual

meeting, day after Wakeoff and Superbowl event.

- House decorating contest to come for the holiday season.

#### **Boat Safety Course /Maintenance/Swim Team – Keith**

- Clean up day successful. Thank you to Sarah Davitt for running the cat machine and Frank Gutowski for help with the catwalk removal.
- Boating safety course will be 3/11/23 and flyer to follow with all details to include sign up and costs

Kristen- Swim team update: great season, new swimmers and pre-team for not quite ready to swim members, two fundraisers pancake breakfast and cornhole tournament were both successful.

Selection of voting members for Nominating Committee: Dan Schultz, Jeff Lawrence and Glenn DeSantis, Greg Struble, Phil Schiff, Joe O'Donnell

Selection of Scholarship Committee: Vinny Gowers, Beth Pries, Phil Schiff, Dana Critchlaw, Donna Fenske

Introduction of board candidates: Pat Brennan, Frank Gutowski, Peter Malenda, Keith Moran

Volunteer to count votes: Jaime Evans, Greg Struble, Beth Pries, Desire Nigro, and Diane Hyland

Welcome aboard and congrats to Frank, Pat, Peter, and Keith

#### **New Business:**

Discussion brought up by board regarding current arrangement regarding security services: Comes at a big cost to club, over \$15k, and want to ensure money well spent for club. Shopped around other security services and can't even come close to our current rate. Open discussion on whether security is effective still, worth price tag, and any alternative ideas.

Beth Pries- Guards never asked for parking pass or beach pass, always see security personnel on phone and sitting in their cars. Did they ever look at boats and boats pulling away when water was low? Frank

Gutowski said he received no calls this year in regards dock or boat issues.

Glenn DeSantis said presence is better than no presence, could potentially have more problems.

Chris Simonelli – How many issues have we had that security has had to address? This past season less direct handling and more recommending members call police. We only learn of a problem if it gets escalated. This year quiet year in general.

Dana Critchlaw– Good we have security especially after hours. Should members take it into their own account to ask other members for badge? No, this puts other members in uncomfortable situations. This is what security service and lifeguards are for. Security this year was too young and not interested to going above and beyond. Current security company raised rates to club and having trouble getting good help.

James Davitt- Visual deterrent- but not helpful when sitting in their car

Glenn DeSantis– Who writes the contract and our wants and needs for security services? Example, every hour we want someone to walk the property. Contract is reviewed every season with board.

Chris Simonelli – Security check point at his work uses an app (software to be used). Peter said this would add to our cost. Good feature but costs more money and needs to be managed.

Donna Fenske- If paying for security service we expect them to do rounds walking the grounds, can't we ask them? Yes, we can ask security company to do this.

Brian Hyland– Back in the day club had no security and had issues. No security not an option

Beth Pries- Security service needs guidelines and check and balances, maybe club get reimbursed if we are not happy with services? Board to review this with security company this coming year.

James Davitt- Maybe we can set a meeting prior to the season starting to review what we expect in regards to security services and even lifeguards as a reinforcement educational session.

Clubhouse rentals- Board and office receives a lot of requests for early entry to club house day of event.

9am is time can enter day of event not day before. Board been trying to be lenient but now it's a problem. Can't manage fairly, gotten out of hand, and club not receiving multi-day rental prices for renter utilizing club day before an event so going forward, we are going back to 9am day of event to enter clubhouse.

Regina Ashworth- If club is not rented Friday but there is a rental Saturday, why can't the renter get in the Friday to set up? The club then is not able to accept last minute rentals.

Sam Chidiac – Has it ever happened in reverse where an event runs late come and someone wants to come in next day to clean? No, not so much an issue for club.

### **Question/Answer**

Bo Ferguson asked about boat races coming back next fall. Do trustees have authority to bring this back without a vote? Yes, but this would need to be brought up at semi-annual or annual meeting for community to make a motion that board has authority to discuss bringing events like boat races to club. Bo said it would be same boat organization but quarterback Bob from Mason Street. Town and police would need to give permits. Bo Ferguson to look into boat race event details and follow up with the board. Board to review last time member vote was done on boat races and for how long would it hold.

If we need to have member vote need to be on notice for May discussion

Jaime Evans- Next year draw down starting 9/22, boat racers won't race with any draw down. They would have to do before Sept. draw down date or move to 2024

Beth Pries – Please be mindful of bright lights and residents when putting lights for kayak racks and basketball courts.

Beth Pries- Are B&C dock repairs from ties not being loosened when water went down? Keith said no, damage to docks wasn't from this.

Glenn DeSantis – Glenn commented that dredging permits are needed From EPA and takes a while to get

Loan discussion- Bryan Hyland commented that club has 15-year loan and pay off in 7 ½ years if on target. On target 9 years now and we have adjustable rate

Dock fees- Vanessa said 17% increase over last year for dock fees and same % increase on non-member side. 85 boat slips- market price on lake \$2k, we raised \$100 a slip for member.

Sam Chidiac –Have we looked into high yield saving accounts? We currently have cd's. Bi-laws cap us at what we can invest our money in.

Diane Hyland suggestion – For social- opening & closing day, could someone stand up and address community for volunteerism using the microphone? Yes, we can do

Kristen Brown – If we don't get help with events, an event goes away

Tom Preston- Can we charge for kayak rentals or has this been discussed. It's been discussed but nothing further on this.

Motion to end meeting- Neil Knipper, second – Greg Struble