



December 2024

THE PORTHOLE NEWS

The monthly newsletter of the Lake Forest Yacht Club



COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

Frank Gutowski, Commodore

Winter weather has arrived with some sub-freezing temperatures during our first week of December. Fortunately, the cold weather did not diminish the turnout for our first annual Christmas Tree lighting ceremony on Sunday, December 1st. Our members and guests enjoyed warm beverages, snacks, kids crafts and a visit by Santa as well. I want to thank our Social Committee, specifically Peter Moreland, Desirae Nigro and Terri Costigan for putting together this well received event as well as all our members that helped decorate. Excellent job on the decorations and festivities. More details and photos on page 6.

Our 2024 Annual Meeting will be this Friday, December 6th at 8 PM. Please join us to receive the Treasurers 2024 Fiscal Report and updates on Trustee assignments and projects completed in 2024 as well as 2025 plans. We also will have the election of new trustees for 2025, with five excellent candidates for membership to select from for the four open Trustee positions. Trustee bios are on pages 3 to 5 in this issue. Reminder, our meeting is for LFYC members only and no live streaming or recording of the Annual Meeting is permitted.

Our final social event for 2024 will be our New Years Eve Party. It's been many years since we had this party, which was an annual event back in the 1970's and 80's. It'll be a fun filled finale to 2024 with food, beverages, DJ Earl and a "New Years Eve Idol" Karaoke contest. Event wristbands are \$25 for members, and \$30 for non-resident guests. Tables may be reserved as well at the club office. See details on page 8 of this issue.

Reservations are now open for members to reserve a table and invite non-resident guests to our annual Italian Cuisine / Comedy Night on February 1st, 2025. The event is already filling up and tables are limited. Please contact the club office if you want to attend this popular event or to reserve a table of 10.

This year, I have been taking on a project to have all our Legacy Portholes scanned and uploaded onto our website for members to revisit historical Lake Forest activities. It's an opportunity to revisit what was taking place here years ago. I have all 1980's and 1990's issues up on our website with some 2000's -2010's up as well. I expect to complete this task by the end of my term this month to have all issues we have available uploaded. Also in this Porthole issue is some LFYC history on page 7 to reflect on our rich club history.

Refrigerator needed! The refrigerator in our lifeguard shack will need to be replaced for next summer season. If any of our members are replacing their current refrigerator, and if the old one is in good working order, we would like to have it for the lifeguard shack. Please contact the club office if you have a refrigerator you would like to donate.

I look forward to seeing you on Friday the 6th for our annual meeting and want to wish all our members a safe Happy Holiday and New Year!

Club Contact Information

Office Manager: Linda Sobieski – Notary Public

Mailing Address:

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

Office Hours :

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

Physical Address:

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

Office Phone: 973-663-0158

Office Email: office@lfyc.org

Website: www.lfyc.org

Board of Trustees (officers and responsibilities)

Frank Gutowski – Commodore – Responsibilities: Docks, Clubhouse, Communications, Scholarship

Phone: 201-679-5837

Email: commodore@lfyc.org

Joe O'Donnell – Secretary – Responsibilities: Office, Beach, Legal, Insurance

Phone: 908-400-2666

Email: secretary@lfyc.org

Pat Brennan – Treasurer – Responsibilities: Financials, Budget, By Laws, Swim Team

Phone: 201-924-6709

Email: treasurer@lfyc.org

Peter Malenda – Trustee – Responsibilities: Security,

Phone: 551-580-0726

Email: trustee1@lfyc.org

Keith Moran – Trustee – Responsibilities: Maintenance, Nominating, Boat Course

Phone: 973-722-1080

Email: trustee2@lfyc.org

Dmitry Bohdan – Trustee – Responsibilities: Grounds, Tennis, Wakeoff

Phone: 862-432-8122

Email: trustee3@lfyc.org

Peter Moreland – Trustee – Responsibilities: Social, Welcoming/ Membership

Phone: 973-479-3104

Email: trustee4@lfyc.org

Additional Contacts

Swim Team: Kristen Brown – Lake Forest Vikings President

Phone: 973-768-6958

Email: kristenbrown@gmail.com

Dockmaster: Frank Gutowski

Phone: 201-679-5837

Email: f.gutowski@optonline.net

2025 Trustee Candidate Bios



Justin Bosi

My name is Justin Bosi, and I am running for a position on the LFYC board. I have been a homeowner on Harbor Drive since 2012 with my wife Samantha and dog Kiwi. We love the neighborhood, people, and club. Kiwi's daily walks around the neighborhood allow us the opportunity to interact with everyone. I graduated from Penn College of Technology in 2007 with a BS in Construction management and have work in the industry since 2002. My role as a Project manager yields many traverse responsibilities operating the LFYC club. Managing several industrial projects from buyout to completion allows me to push through almost any challenge. My background in the construction industry could be a valuable asset to the club.

Over the years It has been a pleasure to volunteer time at the club. From small projects to just volunteering time the community makes you feel warm and welcome. If elected to the board my goal is to continue the momentum of the predecessors making the club community an enjoyable experience.



Tom DeSena

Hello, my name is Tom DeSena. I am 70 years old, married 41 years, a retired Auto Technician, graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a BS in Business, have resided in New Jersey my entire life (45 years in Lake Hopatcong and the last 29 years in Lake Forest - prior to that my first lakefront home for 13 years was in Prospect Point). Lake Forest has been "home" to my family and relatives since the early 60's. My current home belonged to my mother's cousin, June Hinds. The lake and this wonderful community have always held a special bond and place in my heart. Lake life is in my blood!

Prior to moving to Lake Forest in 1995, our children were members of the LF Swim Team. It was during those 4 years as "outsiders" that we made many lifelong friends that still stand strong to present. It was during those earlier years, we knew that LF was a community with strong family values, a neighborhood that was safe, an environment that was diversified, but very close knit. This was where we belonged and where we wanted to raise our young family (and now our 3rd generation of DeSena's).

During our 29 years in LF, I have been "behind" the scenes volunteering my time, knowledge, expertise & support to the Club. My wife, Kathy, was the Beach & Social Director, my children, Tommy & Jamie, were members of the Swim Team for 12 years. Tommy was a Lifeguard and Jamie Babysat for our younger neighbors. Life revolved around the Club and all of its events/functions for many years. Our daughter even got married at LFYC in 2020 with a beautiful ceremony on the point and a tented reception on the patio.

When Dmitry approached me for a vacant trustee opening, I said "why not". Life has come full circle, and I have time to dedicate my services. I have always welcomed the many changes within the community that the Board has presented and executed and would like to contribute and be part of the community's future. I may be a tad "old fashioned" but would like to bring some new & fresh ideas, along with my knowledge & skills, to the table. I hope you will consider me a fit for this opening.

Jamie Evans



Hi Neighbors! My name is Jaime Evans, some of you may remember me – I served on the Board for two terms spanning 2019-2022. I served as Treasurer of the Club for much of that time as well. I live on Yacht Club Drive with my husband, Ray and our two dogs, a goldendoodle named Molly and a Great Pyrenees named Mako. We have two boys in college, Max is at CCM majoring in Criminal Justice and Jackson is at Quinnipiac majoring in Finance. Prior to moving to Yacht Club Drive in 2018, we rented a house on Crescent Drive for almost 5 years, and I can't imagine living anywhere else! Max and Jackson made fast friends with the neighborhood kids and the Club has enabled me to meet all of their parents and more! I love the summers and the sunsets on the lake, as well as the quiet calm winter brings to our neighborhood.

I am a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University, majoring in Business and I am a substitute teacher for the Jefferson Township School District. Prior to filling my current position, I worked in a managerial capacity for a Life Sciences company as well as for a management consulting firm in an accounting role.

I fell in love with volunteering when Max was in preschool. I volunteered as a class mom throughout the years and fulfilled various PTA committee positions. I was also the Treasurer of the PTA for two years when my boys were in elementary school. I can't imagine a better use of my time than volunteering as a Trustee in our beautiful Lake Forest community. If elected, I promise to help make Lake Forest the best it can be so our families, as well as future generations, can continue to enjoy it. Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to seeing you or meeting you at the Annual Meeting!

Evan Kurzman



Hello Lake Forest Yacht Club members. My name is Evan Kurzman, thank you for taking the time to learn a bit more about me and considering me for the board of trustees.

I grew up in Lake Forest and while my parents' house was just out of range for membership, most of my fondest childhood memories all the way thru my high school graduation photos took place at the Yacht Club due to my many close lifelong friends in the community. The Lake is where I love to spend my time and where I spent every Summer even while living elsewhere since college. That is why my wife Caitlin, and I recently purchased our home just a few houses down the street from the house I grew up in, but enough so that we now can become members ourselves!

There are not many places out there in the world that can provide a better childhood than Lake Forest, between the Yacht Club, Tennis, Basketball courts, the Lake, and of course, the people. We are thrilled our two young daughters will have the opportunity to grow up here in the tight community that the Yacht Club helps foster.

That is why I am happy and eager to offer my time and skills to help the Yacht Club in any way I can or that is needed. Professionally I began my career at a boutique asset management firm, where along with managing portfolios I designed and automated the internal business systems including financial and accounting. I currently work as a Quantitative Researcher for Apex Fintech Solutions, where I design and code investment algorithms and software. I have degrees in Finance, Data Analysis, and Financial Engineering from Rutgers University and Cornell University.

For recreation, during the warmer months, I try to spend as much time as I can wakeboarding and have competed in every Wakeoff since its inception. I am passionate about bringing the fun of watersports to the community and the next generation. I also love to play Tennis and would like to get more games going next year, I am jealous of the consistent groups I see playing Pickleball all the time. Getting outside and getting exercise while having fun with family and friends is my ideal use of time.

We had a very busy Summer, stuck at home more than we typically would like since our youngest was born at the end of May. We can't wait to spend next Summer and many more at the Yacht Club. I hope to learn more about what we can do to make the Yacht Club the best it can be for our community for years to come and help to fulfill that future.



Dan Vinson

Hello neighbors, I am Dan Vinson, a resident of Lake Forest since 2016. I am excited to run for the board for this upcoming year where I will be able to offer my professional experience in engineering and construction as well as my desire to improve our beautiful community. My wife, Brittany, and I feel so grateful to have found not just a beautiful place to live but a wonderful community. Having spent several years improving our home, I hope to put the same passion into maintaining and improving our club so it can continue to be enjoyed by all of our Lake Forest families.

My profession is civil engineering, and my experience includes land development and construction. I understand the challenges of maintaining buildings and grounds and how to collaborate on creative solutions. I can bring my skills of managing contractors and performing under tight budgets to our club. Thank you for considering my candidacy to the board. I look forward to volunteering alongside those also committed to this community.

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.



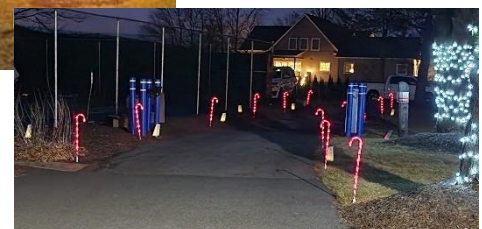
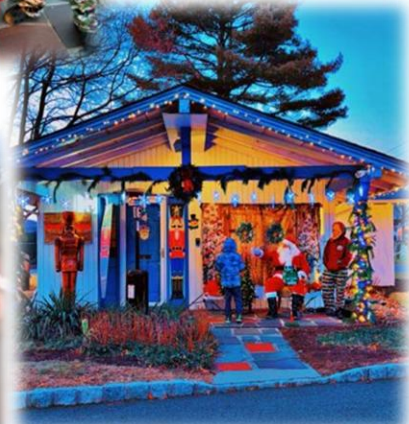
Regina Ashworth
Sales Representative
Cell: 973-229-6935
Office: 973-584-2300
E-mail: chillypita@aol.com



Christmas Tree Lighting **December 1st**

On December 1st we had our Lake Forest Christmas Tree Lighting at the club. There was an excellent turnout of over 100 members for photos with Santa, snacks, hot chocolate, apple cider and kids crafts in the clubhouse. None of our members can recall LFYC ever having an outdoor Christmas Tree, so we will consider this the first annual Christmas Tree Lighting.

We would like to thank our member, Bob Soldoveri, who donated and installed our tree. We also want to thank our Social Committee led by Peter Moreland, Desirae Nigro and Terri Costigan for putting the event together for us. Thank you to all the members and Santa who helped put on this event for our membership!



Lake Forest History

Clubhouse LFYC Legacy Display Case:



Did you know there were once changing rooms at our beach galley? The sign you see in our display case was at our beach galley in the late 50's. Don't know what happened to the changing rooms as they were eliminated at some point. Also in this case are samples of old beach badges we used prior to our current member ID cards. We want to thank the Pilewski's and McCrea's for donating the memorabilia for our display. If any members have historical memorabilia to display, please contact the club office.

Memorial Bench:

Prior to 2019 when we installed our paver patio along the beach, we had several benches that members used with shade from 50-year-old pine trees. During the weekdays, one of those benches was occupied by Mrs. Priscilla Moran, who provided childcare to many of our young members starting in the early 1970's right through the mid 2000's. That was in addition to bringing up her own 6 children.

A common site on weekdays back then was seeing Mrs. Moran with a small line of children setting up in front of the bench for a day of fun on the beach. A generation of members' children were cared for during workdays by Mrs. Moran while their parents were at work. Some of those cared for are still in our community as adults and even raising their own children here in Lake Forest.

Sadly, Priscilla Moran passed away in 2011. In 2014, the Trustee Board dedicated that bench to Mrs. Moran with a plaque funded by members who had fond memories of her childcare. With the patio renovation of 2019, the bench was temporarily moved to the grassy point.

With the help of Jenna Gamble, we were able to identify the original location of that bench using GPS coordinates. It is now positioned correctly in its original spot for members use and to reflect on a woman who provided so much to the youth of our community over several decades.



Upcoming Social Events

New Years Eve Party

Tuesday, December 31st

at 7PM



Lake Forest Yacht Club

New Year's Eve Party 2024

Final Club Party of 2024
December 31st @ 7:00PM

DJ Earl playing all the great party Tunes

New Years Eve Idol at 10 PM:
Karaoke Performance by 5 of the best amateur
singers in Lake Forest judged by our
NYE Idol Talent Judges.
Prize to winning performers

2024 NYE Special Drink Tower
Beer, Wine and Soft drinks included
Buffet: Sausage n Peppers/ Penne vodka,
Chicken Parmigan / Salad



Tickets now available at club office
Members \$25 / Non resident Guests \$30
Tables of 10 May be reserved
Adults Only: Age 21 and over



Italian Cuisine/Comedy Night

Saturday, February 1st 2025 6:30pm



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

Reservations open early for
LFYC Members Only:
November 18th to 30th 2024



Starting December 2nd: Members may add their non-resident guests and reserve a table of 10.

Payment for reservations must be made within 5 days of reservation or be subject to cancellation



Reserve early, only 150 seats available.

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:** *Aborio Rice Balls, Eggplant Rollatine, Stuffed Mushrooms*
3. **Pasta:** *Al Ceppo Broccoli Rabe & Sausage, Gluten Free Imported Penne Pasta, 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, Eclair, Coffee, Decaf and Tea*

A bottle of Chianti will be on each table. Beer and Wine also included.

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

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



Talia Reese & Joey Vega
Members: \$85 per person
Member Guest : \$95 per person

Adults Only: Age 21 and over
Prepaid RSVP required on all seats at
the Lake Forest Yacht Club Office





Lake Forest Legacy

New Year's Eve Party

This year we are bringing back the Lake Forest New Year's Eve Party. We'll have plenty of food, beverages, DJ Earl and a Karaoke performance for the "New Year's Eve Idol".

New Years Eve Parties were an annual event at the club back in the the 70's and 80's. Members and guests dressed in their best suits and dresses for dinner and dancing at the last party of each year. Below are photos from NYE parties in 1979 and 1983. It's great to look back at these parties as we start anew with this years party to ring in 2025!



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.

NEW:

We can now set up automatic payment withdrawn from CC/Debit card. Automatic Payment Form is available on our website under "Forms"

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 to have your message included by the 20th 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.

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!

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| - Elise Gilligan* | 973-440-7166 |
| - Maddie Luke** | 973-800-5541 |
| - Aubrey Gilligan** | 973-461-3900 |

**Indicates Red Cross Certification*

***Indicates CPR Certified*

Lost Badge Fee:

There will be a \$25 per badge fee for replacement of lost badges. There is no fee for updating badges with pictures or name changes, etc.

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. Please see pricing and style options below



LFYC Trustee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 20th, 2024

Attendees: Frank, Joe, Pat, Dmitry, Keith, Peter Malenda, Peter Moreland

Call to Order: 7:00 pm **Adjourned:** 8:02 pm

Frank: Docks, Clubhouse, Communications and Scholarship

- **Review Clubhouse Rentals**
 - Current rental requests for review/ and approved for 12/29, 5/31
- **Clubhouse:**
 - **Repairs / Updates**
 - Round Table repaired. 16 tables in service.
 - 17th table has defective legs and is out of service. We can replace the legs for about \$300. Shall I order in a set? Agreed to swap the bottoms from one with no metal ring.
 - Broom / Mop rack installed on side of stair handrail in storage room. Better organization for brooms and mops.
 - To help stay organized: Will be taping signs on walls for storage locations for tables and chairs.
 - Old refrigerator sold and gone for \$50. Guard shack looking for a college frig or a donation to be put in next month Porthole.
 - Ladies room fan needs to be replaced
 - **HVAC Servicing:**
 - Last HVAC service and Tune-up was July 2022. Approximate cost was \$890. Should schedule service in Spring 2025. It was done when we converted to gas. Agree not to do this expense.
 - Also need air filters changed in clubhouse. Maintenance to replace them in April and Sept.
- **Porthole:**
 - **Porthole Legacy Website Project: Objective to have all Portholes uploaded for historical reference.**
 - All 1980s Portholes we have are scanned and uploaded to our website
 - 1990s uploaded through 1996.
 - Uploads of 1997 through 2005 in process and will be done by end of month.
 - 2006 through 2019 soft copies uploading over the next several weeks. Thanks to Tony D'Alauro and Linda for helping organize the soft copies.
 - Should have all available Legacy issues uploaded by end of year.

- Linda agreed to be Porthole Publisher starting with the February 2025 issue.
- **Docks:**
 - Critical B and C Dock analysis with Walt at AAA Docks still pending.

Projects:

- **Office Outdoor Lamp**
 - New fixture installed with bulb that is equipped with photocell
- **Damaged Picnic tables**
 - No update on replacing them with Lifetime tables at Home Depot. Tables have yet to be clearance out.

Pat, Treasurer: Financials, Budget, By-Laws, Swim Team

- **Finance Update**
 - CD renewed
 - Finance update
 - Buy laws need to be updated to show that trustees to have a voting interest need to provide driver license number, Social Security and other personal info, otherwise you can be a trustee with no voting interest.

Joe, Secretary: Office, Beach, Legal & Insurance

- **Legal / Insurance**
 - No Update.
- **Office Update**
 - Quickbook Fees Increasing. \$649 2024 vs \$999 as of Dec 1 2024. Pat will look into if the cloud price is lower.

Keith: Boat Safety Course, Maintenance & Nominating

- **Boat Safety Course to be scheduled for March 15th 2025**
- **Nominating**
 - 5 Candidates for the 4 Open Trustee positions to be voted on at December Meeting.
 - Justin Bosi, Tom DeSena, Jamie Evans, Evan Kurzman, and Dan Vinson
 - Bios mailed out with meeting notification
 - Bios also included in November Porthole as well as upcoming December Porthole
- **Maintenance Update**
 - Beach Closedown completed on Saturday 10/12.
 - Access barrier gate to boat ramp broken again. It is now too short to effectively restrict access without gate key. Need to replace barrier gate. Frank to pick up tomorrow.

Piotr: Security, Wi-Fi Connectivity

Actions/New Business:

- **Security Update**
 - **LADD Security Update.**
 - Security was on premise October 30th for mischief night. No damage or vandalism at club property.
 - All other Security activities concluded for year
 - Wi-Fi Connectivity update
 - Security Camera to be added to clubhouse storage room. Cost is around \$300. Agree to forgo it.
 - Discussion to reduce the number of days we have security

Peter Malenda projects:

- **Improved Audio at Clubhouse and Beach Galley**
 - NO UPDATE: Still pending on Casey Johnston availability.
 - Casey Johnston has this on his task list. Install date TBD
 - Clubhouse audio both outside and inside first.
 - New wiring, speakers, microphones, AV Closet renovation
 - Peter to write instructions for security cameras
 - Weedo is all winterized
 - Dock bubblers going in this weekend

Peter: Social, Welcoming

- **Social Committee status**
 - Committee Staffing and Event planning
- **Upcoming**
 - 12/1: Christmas Tree Lighting
 - The tree has been donated
 - Will use propane heaters
 - 12/20: Member residence Holiday Decoration contest/ This is not being done due to lack of judges.
 - 12/31: NYE Party
 - 2/1/25: Italian Cuisine/Comedy Night

Dmitry: Grounds, Tennis, Wakeoff

- **Grounds**
 - Beach Galley Winterization completed by Jon Rudolph
 - Clubhouse patio Drainage Project to eliminate erosion
 - Eagle scout project to redo baseball field

Other Business:

Annual Meeting

- No Live Streaming or other such remote sharing of the meeting by members in audience
- Need each trustee to provide their PowerPoint slides by Monday December 2nd to complete meeting slide presentation.
- Schedule a review of final presentation at Commodore Room: Thursday 12/5.

December Trustee Meeting:

- Meeting to be scheduled off site for current and 2025 incoming trustees.
- Orientation meeting to help new trustees understand scope of responsibilities and current status of club operations.
- Date TBD: Targeting week of 12/16.