



November 2023

THE PORTHOLE NEWS



The monthly newsletter of the Lake Forest Yacht Club

COMMODORE'S MESSAGE



Frank Gutowski, Commodore

The 5 year drawdown of the lake started in late September and it seemed like the water depletion was faster than expected. It ended up being a short season for our members who enjoy autumn boating and was forced to remove their boats early this season. Our docks were empty by the middle of October. With the drawdown, we will be doing some dredging around the dive tower, dock repair and remediating the rocky section on the southern end of our beach. We also will be removing any lake bed obstructions that pose a risk to boaters. More details will be conveyed as these projects begin.

We had our annual Trunk or Treat at the club on October 29th. Due to rainy weather, most activities were in the clubhouse with DJ Earl providing the music and games for the kids. I want to thank Kristen Brown and the social committee for coordinating and managing the event. Details and photos are on page 6.

The next social event will be Breakfast with Santa on Saturday December 2nd. That will finish up our social events for this year. Our first event in 2024 is the popular Comedy Night event on February 3rd. It will once again be "Italian Cuisine / Comedy Night" as members stated they enjoyed the cuisine better than the beefsteak served in previous years. Reservations open on November 18th.

Our 2023 Annual Meeting is on Friday December 1st at 8PM. Members will receive the Treasurers 2023 Fiscal Report, updates on Trustee assignments and projects completed in 2023, establishing 2024 committees and the election of new trustees for 2024. This is the best opportunity for membership to be informed on club direction as well as plans for 2024. Please join us on Friday December 1st.

At that meeting, membership will be voting on the three Trustee positions being vacated by Chrissy Gilligan, Kristen Brown and Bryan Hyland. We have four excellent trustee candidates for membership to select from for those three vacancies. The candidate bios were sent out with the meeting notice mailed to membership and are also included on pages 4 and 5 in this Porthole.

The damaged spiral slide in the playground has been closed off and will be getting replaced. We have placed the order for the new slide with the playground manufacturer and expect delivery in about 12 weeks. The club rental fee we received from the OPA boat races and a generous donation from a long time member of LFYC are being allocated to the slide purchase and will cover most of the cost. More details and historical photos of the playground are on page 3 of this Porthole.

To all our members that rented a kayak slip this year, the racks are now closed for the season. Please remove your kayaks and Stand Up Paddle Boards. The Kayak Racks will reopen on April 1st.

I look forward to seeing our members on December 1st at our annual meeting. Until then, I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

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

Website: www.lfyc.org

Office Hours :

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

Board of Trustees (officers and responsibilities)

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

Phone: 201-679-5837

Email: commodore@lfyc.org

Chrissy Gilligan – Secretary – Responsibilities: Office, Communications

Phone: 973-632-8734

Email: secretary@lfyc.org

Pat Brennan – Treasurer – Responsibilities: Financials, Budget, Grounds

Phone: 201-924-6709

Email: treasurer@lfyc.org

Peter Malenda – Trustee – Responsibilities: Security, Tennis, Wakeoff

Phone: 551-580-0726

Email: trustee1@lfyc.org

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

Phone: 973-722-1080

Email: trustee2@lfyc.org

Kristen Brown – Trustee – Responsibilities: Beach/Galley, Social, Welcoming

Phone: 973-768-6958

Email: trustee3@lfyc.org

Bryan Hyland – Trustee – Responsibilities: Insurance, By-Laws, Legal

Phone: 973-945-0180

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



Coming Soon: NEW Spiral Slide for our Playground

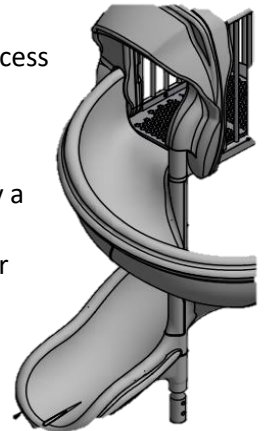
The spiral slide in our playground which has been used by many of our young members over the last 25 years has broken down with a large hole in the center of the slide. Of the three slides at the playground, two have already been replaced over the past 6 years; the spiral slide was the last of the original playground slides.

The current playground was a joint purchase in 1998 between the Lake Forest Yacht Club and the Lake Forest Nursery School. The co-op nursery school was operating at our clubhouse from the early 1970's through May 2015. While the Nursery School and Club shared the cost to purchase the playground, member volunteers from both installed it. Below are photos of the playground build and early photos of the swing set and slide it replaced.

Good news is that we have contacted the playground manufacturer and ordered a new spiral slide to replace the damaged one. The manufacturer had the original diagrams of what they sold us and is providing us an updated version that will work for our structure. The new slide will require a new access bridge which will be part of the purchase. The slide will be here in late January.

Total cost for the slide replacement is \$11,624. Most of the funding is coming from two sources: We're using the \$6,000 we received from the September Boat Races as well as a \$5,000 donation by a prior, long time member, Carol Bradley, who specifically requested it be used for the playground. Thanks to Carol and the OPA Boat Races, we'll have a new Spiral Slide installed in early spring for our young members use.

Like members did in 1998, volunteering to build the structure, we'll be looking for member volunteers in the spring to help us remove the damaged slide and install the new one.



Annual meeting

Our 2023 Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Friday, December 1st, 2023 at 8 p.m. A quorum must be met by 8:15 p.m. Membership accounts must be in good standing prior to attending the meeting.

Trustee elections will be held during this meeting to fill 3 vacating Trustee positions.

2024 Trustee Candidate Bios



Dmitry Bohdan

Hello, fellow yacht club members! My name is Dmitry Bohdan, and I am excited to hopefully become a member of the board. I am committed to the growth of our treasured yacht club, and I believe that my unique background and enjoyment of community involvement make me a strong candidate. My wife, Gabrielle, and I are proud homeowners here since May 2020 and recently celebrated our wedding in August 2023. Both Gabrielle and I have been fortunate to call this lake our home since birth. Our connection to this community runs deep, and it's a place we hold close to our hearts. I was an active member of our swim team growing up.

Professionally, I work as a Project Manager at Picatinny Arsenal supporting the modernization of the largest small caliber manufacturing site in the United States. One of my greatest passions is building things. I love the process of bringing things from ideas to reality. On the side, I have flipped a couple of properties and own rentals. I've had the privilege of volunteering the skills and knowledge I have learned from my previous properties to various yacht club projects over the years. These experiences have further solidified my dedication to enhancing our club's facilities and activities.

My motivation for seeking a position on the board is twofold. Firstly, Gabrielle and I are planning to start a family soon, and I am driven to ensure that our yacht club continues to be a safe enjoyable place for all the children. Secondly, I am inspired by the potential to contribute to the club's continued growth and prosperity, ensuring that it remains a welcoming environment for past, present, and future members.

If elected to the board, I am committed to working with fellow members and board colleagues to realize our shared vision for the club. Together, we can enhance our facilities, organize exciting events, and create lasting memories for current and future generations. I kindly ask for your support in this endeavor. Let's sail into the future together, making our yacht club an even more exceptional place for all of us to enjoy. Thank you for considering me as your candidate for the board. Together, we can make a positive difference in our community.



Jeff Dannhardt

My name is Jeff Dannhardt, and I am running for the Board of LFYC. I moved into Lake Forest 4 years ago, when my wife Kim and I were married in 2019. I am a proud father to 2 adult children, two stepchildren; and super-proud "Pops" to 2 grandsons with a granddaughter on the way. I am running because I want to become more involved in this wonderful community and help to continue the work that the current and previous Board members have accomplished.

I have been employed as the General Manager of Dining Services at Ramapo College for the past 22 years. This experience has exposed me to several responsibilities which may be helpful: financial management, human resources as it relates to both employees and customers and public relations, which you can imagine is sometimes quite the challenge in today's college environment.

Lake Forest has a sense of community that I truly enjoy. From the club activities to volunteering, it is easy to feel "at home" and I want to be a part of ensuring that the club continues to move forward in the years to come for everyone's enjoyment. Although still quite new to the neighborhood; and having never sat on a board, I am hard working and a quick study. I know I can make a positive impact and I hope you will consider me for this opportunity. Thank you



Peter Moreland

My name is Peter Moreland and have lived in Lake Forest on Crescent Drive since June of 2019. Since then, my wife and I have loved going to the beach to enjoy the lake and to attend many of the events that are hosted at the clubhouse. Our nightly walks around the neighborhood are always a great chance to say Hi and meet other neighbors that we don't get to talk to a lot.

I currently work as a Graphic Chain Manager for the North American region overseeing a team that helps to approve packaging so that it looks perfect for when you are at the store buying some cookies and treats throughout the year.

As a board member I would love the opportunity to give back to our community and help keep it a great place to live and enjoy while also look to improve on some things that maybe needed as the community's needs change and progress over time.

Thank you for your consideration,



Joseph O'Donnell

My name is Joseph O'Donnell and I live on Crescent Drive with my wife (the boss) Kara and my two sons CJ and Miles. I have been employed with my current company IQVIA for 23 years as a Human Resources Professional currently serving as the Head of North American Employee Relations and HR Compliance. I not only live in Lake Forest, but I have been home based for the past 12 years. I hold a BS degree in Business/Human Resources Mgt. and have active certifications as a Senior Professional in Human Resources from the Society for Human Resources Management and the Human Resources Certification Institute.

Kara and I met at Marist College and bought our home in 2007, for two main reasons - one was our wonderful LFYC and the other was children playing on our street. I have been an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) with more than 30 years of volunteer service, and currently an active member and officer of the Jefferson Rescue Squad. I try to stay active with my kids and have coached their soccer teams and can often be found in the summer at the end of our dock volunteering as a swim official.

For the past 4 years I have served on the board of the New Jersey Industry Liaison(NILG) group and currently serve as the Chair. My term on the NILG board will be ending on December 31 2023 and it has been a privilege to represent NJ Companies on the state and national level.

Over the years I have volunteered my time in a variety of roles down at the club. I believe our club every year continues to get better each year, and I would be proud to be a part of that legacy. LFYC and its members have been there for me when my family had a crisis, and I would love to return that favor by being on the board.

Thank you for your consideration.

Trunk or Treat 2023



The rainy weather on our annual Trunk or Treat event on Sunday October 29th didn't effect our members and guests turnout. Activities were both indoors and outdoors at our club. DJ Earl was there playing music and doing kids games. Plenty of creative costumes and a great time was had by all.



Best Costumes

Best Display



Upcoming Social Events

Italian Cuisine/Comedy Night

Saturday, February 3rd 2024 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 2023

Starting December 1st: 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.



Megan Hanley & Richie Byrne

Members: \$80 per person
Member Guest : \$90 per person

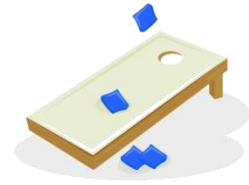
Prepaid RSVP required on all seats at
the Lake Forest Yacht Club Office



NOVEMBER 2023

November 12th

Lake Forest Swim Team Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser



DECEMBER 2023

December 2nd

Breakfast with Santa!

Saturday, December 2nd 9-11 am

\$7 adult members; \$12 adult non-members
\$3 kids 5-12 (members), \$6 kids 5-12 (non-member),
under 5 years old-free

Deadline to purchase tickets is November 29th.

Contact Linda in the office to purchase tickets.

We are looking for volunteers for this event. Please view the sign-up genius and help out

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0449A9AF29A4F58-45697572-breakfast>



FEBRUARY 2024

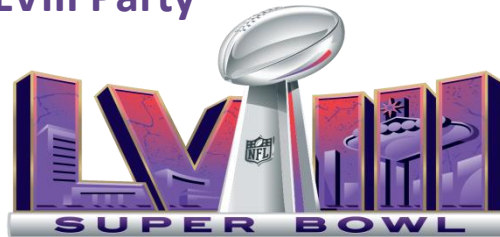
February 3rd

Italian Cuisine/Comedy Night Saturday, February 3rd 2024 6:30pm



February 11th

Super Bowl LVIII Party



February 17th

Winterfest 2024



November 2023

MARCH 2024

March 9th

LRC & Texas Hold'em Tournament Night

Date: March 9th, 2024

\$ 35.00 per person

Gift cards for top 3 finishers in each tournament



Entry to 3 rounds of LRC

or to

Texas Hold'em

Select which Tournament you want to play in at time of purchase
(Can't play in both events)

Sandwiches, beverages & pizza included.

This is a Lake Forest Community Event where all Lake Forest Residents may attend this event . All Lake Forest residents, club members & their guest are welcome to attend.

Deadline for tournament entry is March 1st

Event Agenda:

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

Social Committee Needs You!!

Did you know that volunteers plan and run all of our social events?

Social events are not possible without volunteers! We need your help. In order to keep having great events, we need more volunteers. Please sign up for the event/events you would like to help plan. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Brown at 973-768-6958.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0449A9AF29A4F58-upcoming1>

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



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 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 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!

- Elise Gilligan* - 973-440-7166
- Maddie Luke* - 973-800-5541

**Indicates Red Cross Certification*

Lost Badge Fee:

Starting for 2023, 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.

Credit Card Fee

Please note, starting 10/1/23 the fee to use a credit card to pay at the office will increase from 3% to 4% due to the credit card company increasing our fee

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: 10-18-23

Attendees: Frank, Chrissy, Pat, Keith, Bryan, Kristen, Peter

Called to Order: 7:08pm

Adjourned: 9:16pm

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## **Frank:Commodore/Docks/Scholarship/Clubhouse**

- Club rental contracts reviewed
- Patty Bagnall asked Board if Rescue Squad could rent club for short time at discount rate to swear in new members to Rescue Squad. Board approved
- Weekday club rentals- Clubhouse is available during the week if members want to rent
- Clubhouse cleaning service- new service is doing a good job and at the same price as our previous cleaning company
- Clubhouse wall repair from Breast Cancer event- Frank to make repair.
- Fire Extinguishers- all 7 on record with Adams Fire accounted for in clubhouse, galley and office. All have been re-certified and an additional extinguisher added to the kitchen.
- Broken Spiral Slide in Playground- Frank presented history of current slide and three options to repair/replace the broken slide. Board reviewed options and budget. OPA Boat Race Rental Fee of \$6K and \$5K donated by Carol Bradley for playground is being used toward cost of this repair. Board vote- Frank motioned to move forward with spiral slide replacement, Pat second the motion, Chrissy and Kristen voted yes as well. Purchase approved.
- Tree removal- dead tree by horseshoe pit taken down and wood to be split and stored for fire pit. Wood split date set for 10/28
- 2024 projects- shade sails 2<sup>nd</sup> island, Wall ball seam sealed and primed, Dive tower needs to be scrape and painted, dive tower sprinklers repaired, Kayak racks behind beach galley, Clubhouse display showcase lighting, Paver patio areas that need to be repaired, and Sink holes near swim team point to be repaired (member volunteer projects)
- Clubhouse and galley exterior need to be scraped and painted (paid contractor to be hired)

- Dive tower slide repaired (several members have volunteered to attempt repair)
- Low voltage lighting at lighthouse base to replace solar lights that keep getting damaged.

## **7:32pm Conversation with James Critchlaw in regards to OPA Boat Race Concerns:**

Topic 1 – Set up time of events- James wants to have set up day (Thursday night) and breakdown day (Monday) written into the contract so that security can be booked for those dates and OPA insurance can cover any OPA member on our property during event dates. Board agrees to update contract

James wants security for Thursday and Monday to monitor non-member OPA members on our property as at the set-up day for event there was a gathering of 20 or so OPA people on club property. Board agrees to security services for those two additional days, pending security company availability. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday security will be present at night during event

Keith brought up updating the contract for Wakeoff to reflect similar to OPA contract for insurance purposes. Board was in agreement

Topic 2- James asked who approved the change in schedule to allow the renter (OPA) to come on property early to set up event for event? Bryan said that the Board has authority to have internal conversations to discuss allowing renters to come onto property before event takes place.

James asked about club rental procedure. Is there a procedure to approve rentals? Frank replied that Board approves all rentals during board meetings and have internal discussion on any variance that needs to be addressed in between meetings.

Topic 3- James suggests to make a process for timelines and permits to be handed in prior to event. This event the permits were not available for member to view readily. Beer garden was not regulated to what permits pertained and could have been shut down due to not roping off properly and controlling entering and exiting the beer garden with one entrance. This is for OPA to regulate and not the board. Board suggests the police to be called if member sees regulations not being followed

Conversation concluded at 7:51pm

**Chrissy: Secretary/Office/Communication**

- Email blast service options reviewed and new Outlook based email blasts to be used more frequently going forward to keep membership aware of club activities.
- Board meeting dates reviewed for remainder of year

**Keith: Maintenance/Nominating/Boating**

- Nominating committee- Candidate bios submitted and will be in upcoming Porthole
- Maintenance- beach shutdown successful
- Field repair from Boat Races completed

**Pat: Treasurer**

- Credit card fees & ACH fees: There is a charge for ACH fee service as quick books charges \$3 fee and this wasn't being passed along to members to pay. Credit card swipe machine is now fixed thanks to Peter. Credit card fee is being passed on to membership but ACH fee is not. Board agrees to not charge members for ACH fee since so few people use this payment method. Wording on invoice to be clarified on the associated fees
- Budget review- Loan payments reviewed. Additional payment on loan to be made, amount to be finalized at next meeting
- Dredging- Quote to be done in December

**Bryan: Insurance**

- Insurance Update- all certificates and compliances up to date for this year. Bryan to shop around for potential other insurance companies for quotes to compare
- No legal updates

**Peter: Security/Wakeoff**

- Thermostat in clubhouse that stopped working has been replaced
- Tennis Court Repair- Tom Preston repaired the cracks
- Security for mischief night 10/30 – Security to be confirmed for this date
- Water heater in galley- quote being obtained to replace it as its leaking. To be done in Spring

**Kristen: Social/Beach**

- Trunk or Treat event- no new updates but all set for event
- Breakfast with Santa event being planned for December
- 2024 social events being planned, for example adult game night and Winterfest
- Nov 12<sup>th</sup> Cornhole event for swim team

November 2023