



# The Highland Lakes Newsette

A publication of Highland Lake Country Club and Community Association at Highland Lakes, New Jersey © 2020  
"All the News That Fits We Print"



Volume 2020 | Issue Number 2 | March 7, 2020

## From the President's Desk

MICHAEL GELFAND, PRESIDENT

As noted in my last column, the concept and practice of short-term rentals (STRs) in our community continues to be a hot-button issue. I previously invited members who wanted their opinions heard to attend the Voting Board's February meeting. There was a strong turnout of members who shared their concern about how the Club regulates and enforces its rules regarding rentals and associate memberships, especially with the expansion of STRs, and how the interests of members on both sides of the issue need to be protected.

The Club is planning at least one weekend "STR discussion" at the Clubhouse to give members another public opportunity to share ideas and concerns with the Voting Board. We expect to schedule it on a weekend during March, and that date/time will be broadly communicated so that everyone who's interested is aware. A survey on STR perspectives will be distributed via hardcopy (available in the Clubhouse office) and online (via the Club's email blast) to more closely gauge what the membership thinks. Your opinions will help inform how the Voting Board moves forward with STRs, and I will continue to update you as this issue progresses.

Another hot button issue we're addressing has to do with Vernon Township, both in terms of how the town reimburses the Club (and other private lake communities

- PLCs - in Vernon) for snow removal, and how the town seems to turn a blind eye toward homes that violate Township ordinances.

Regarding snow reimbursement, Highland Lakes has been meeting for months with leaders of other PLCs in Vernon who are similarly frustrated by the Township's inconsistent approach as well as its inexplicable methodology. We have a planned meeting with Mayor Burrell and members of his administration to determine whether reimbursement as required under New Jersey law will be satisfactorily addressed once and for all. With regard to houses that violate Township ordinances, we believe Vernon must be much more aggressive in addressing these blights on our Highland Lakes neighborhoods and other neighborhoods throughout Vernon. Working with other PLCs, we will press our Mayor to aggressively enforce Township ordinances that protect our rights and property values as home owners and serve the greater good of the town.

The Club is also grappling with serious environmental issues in the form of an invasive beetle known as the emerald ash borer (EAB)—the EAB's only purpose in life is to eat under the bark of the ash tree, thereby killing nearly every ash tree the EAB finds. The EAB has already arrived in Vernon, which puts all of Highland Lakes' ash trees in jeopardy. The Club has engaged Bartlett Tree Experts to perform an inventory of ash trees along the Club's roadways and on Club properties, after which the Club will weigh the best approach for addressing the issue - either through preservation treatment or removal.

Left unaddressed, most ash trees in our community will die from EAB infestation, creating a dangerous and unsightly issue for both the Club and members who have ash trees on their property. The cost of treatment is high, as is the cost of removal, but the potential risk to members on Club property—as well as members' own properties—is no less significant. In other words, it's a complicated issue without any attractive options, but the Club is aggressively working through those options to arrive at the one that best serves the community.

That is, after all, what the Voting Board exists to do.

## Stewardship

STU BLANK, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

If we look at stewardship in its simplest form, the principle of stewardship entails the safeguarding of an organization for the future. While this article was initially going to simply list the reasons why stewardship is so important to the sustainability of our community, after attending the Board meeting at the end of February, I realized that the need for stewardship in our community is even greater.

Every member has their own little slice of heaven here in Highland Lakes, but that involves more than just ownership. While some own and others may rent, we all share this community. What we do and how we maintain our property impacts our immediate neighbors and our neighborhood. It's important to:

- Keep property neat and free of litter and debris (unused or discarded toys, lawn furniture, seasonal inflatables, etc.)
- Maintain property and surrounding areas with eco-friendly materials, remembering always that whatever is put on lawns, shrubs, driveways or walkways at any time of the year will eventually find its way to our beautiful lakes.
- Be appreciative of the trees that thrive on your property and only remove them when there is no way to save them. You've moved into a wooded community. Do your best to keep it that way.
- Put your garbage and recycling cans away on the day the trash/recycling is picked up.
- Pick up litter when you see it on the road in front of your house, at beaches or freeways and even in the water.
- Be mindful of the new Carry-In/Carry-Out policy that is being implemented in our community and do your personal best to make it a success.
- Trim the bushes and trees that border your property so that drivers have a clear view of what is ahead of them and around the corner.

All too often we hear "it's not my responsibility," but it's for all of us to make Highland Lakes the best it can be. Being a good neighbor and an active participant in your community is easier than you might think. We all have some skill we can share and so much of what happens here depends on us. Everyone, regardless of the time they have lived here, should try to find a committee and volunteer, be responsible, and strive to make Highland Lakes better than when you first arrived here. Let's appreciate the volunteers we have and welcome newcomers.

What do we get if we take ownership, accept responsibility and become truly accountable to our community and our neighbors? We are rewarded with the best lake community in New Jersey. Most importantly, we safeguard it for future generations, so that we can celebrate one hundred years and beyond!

## Upcoming Events

**March 17** – St. Patrick's Day Dinner  
**April 4** – Comedy Night  
**April 5** – Easter Bunny Brunch  
**April 24** – Eclectic Evening of the Arts  
**April 25** – Ecology Cleanup Day

Save  
the  
Date



**HLCC's ANNUAL**

**St. Patrick's**

**Family Dinner**

**Tuesday, 6-8PM**

**March 17th**

**TRADITIONAL**

**IRISH FARE INCLUDING:**

**Corned Beef & Cabbage**

**Platter or Sandwiches**

**Coffee & Tea**

**Tickets:**

**Adults: \$10 Kids 6-14: \$5**

**Available at the Club Office or at the Door**

**Sponsored by**

**The Clubhouse Committee**

Attendees are encouraged to bring Desserts to share!

**BYO Beverage**

## 2020 Badges and Permits

### Available for Pickup April 13

Starting Monday, April 13, 2020, members who have paid their dues and assessments in full may pick up their 2030 membership badges and permits at the Club Office. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 am to 4 pm, and on Saturday, from 10 am to 1 pm.

Please pay particular attention to the emergency information section on your badge pick-up form. Having emergency contacts and telephone numbers on file at the Club Office makes it much easier to contact you in an emergency.

Parking permits are valid only for those vehicles listed in the records at the Club Office. If you have replaced any vehicles, please bring copies of the appropriate vehicle registrations.

This year’s boating permit has been changed to include the requirement that ALL boats from ALL Club docks, and from ALL boat racks on the western side of the Main Lake, and at Lake 1 and Lake 5, must be removed by October 15, 2020



2020 BADGES AND PERMITS

### FYI

For your convenience, there is a mail slot in the door of the office to drop payments off after hours. Please make checks payable to HLCC and make sure your member number is on your check. Thank you.

## The Highland Lakes Newsette

Highland Lakes Country Club  
and Community Association

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Roe Hall, Administrative Assistant

Judy Norton, Editor

Special Thanks to the

Communications Committee and  
all of our contributors

PO Box 578 - 2240 Lakeside Drive West

Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422

973-764-4366 / Email: hlcc@warwick.net

## Help Wanted – Clubhouse Director

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Recruitment is underway for the position of Clubhouse Director for the 2020 summer season. The ideal candidate works well with parents and children, is energetic and creative, and preferably has demonstrated experience in developing and supervising recreational programs.

Duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Hiring, training, scheduling and supervising Clubhouse recreation and Beach Hut staff;
- Gathering continual input from parents and children leading to enhanced programs and activities during the summer;
- Planning, organizing and conducting Clubhouse activities for all ages, including arts and crafts, story-time, dances, movies, contests and field trips;
- Recruiting volunteers to conduct and assist in Clubhouse activities;

- Serves as coordinator for Family Day events and activities;
- Purchasing vending supplies for sale and maintaining inventory at the Activities Center and Beach Hut;
- Publicizing Clubhouse activities and writing articles about upcoming events in the Newsette on the Club’s Facebook page.

Throughout the summer, the Clubhouse Director can be expected to follow a 35-40 hour weekly work schedule involving daytime, evening and weekend hours, including activities and events in the evening.

Resumes, references and a letter of interest should be immediately submitted to Jack McLaughlin, General Manager, Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association, PO Box 578, Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422, or by email to hlcc@warwick.net. The position will be filled as soon as possible.

## Voting Board

### Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association

October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020

Officer	Name	Telephone	E-Mail
President	Michael Gelfand	973-764-8758	president@hlcc.org
First Vice President	Judith Norton	973-764-2495	firstvp@hlcc.org
Second Vice President	Raymond Zimmerman	973-766-3359	secondvp@hlcc.org
Treasurer	Michael Gillooley	973-764-4366	hltreasurer@hlcc.org
Secretary	Climeen Wikoff	973-764-5604	secretary@hlcc.org
Section	Trustee	Telephone	E-Mail
1	Louis Iannucci	973-764-7042	trustee1@hlcc.org
2	William Beardsley	973-764-7730	trustee2@hlcc.org
3	Patricia Thompson	973-271-9566	thompsonpatty208@gmail.com
4	Lisa Entwistle	201-281-6262	trustee4@hlcc.org
5	James Kensek	973-764-6835	trustee5@hlcc.org
6	Melissa Hardin	973-764-1433	trustee6@hlcc.org
7	Lee Eisenberg	973-764-4366	trustee7@hlcc.org
8	Dominick Beninati	917-566-3136	trustee8@hlcc.org
9	Thomas Castiglione	973-764-4366	trustee9@comcast.net
10	Chris Kaas	-----	section10hlcc@gmail.com
11	David Cartier	973-534-2039	trustee11@hlcc.org
12	Len Bogdon	973-764-7136	trustee12@hlcc.org





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## Save the Dates

LOUISE STALEY, CHAIRPERSON, CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE

### Exciting Events Coming Your Way

**March 14** – Teen Night  
**April 4** – Comedy Night  
**April 5** – Easter Bunny Brunch  
**April 14** – Teen Night  
**April 22** – Wing Night Wednesday  
**May 5** – Taco Tuesday (Cinco de Mayo)  
**May 8** – Teen Night  
**May 24** – Memorial Weekend breakfast  
**June 13** – Teen Night

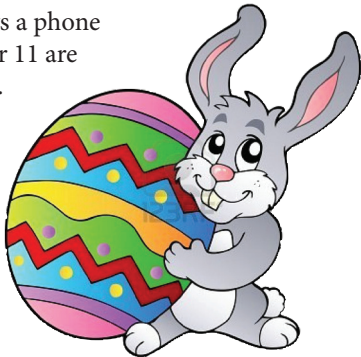
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

## Easter Bunny

MELISSA HARDIN, COORDINATOR

This year's Easter Bunny celebration will be on Sunday, April 5 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Please come on down and enjoy two hours of a pancake breakfast, along with a craft, games and of course a visit from the Easter Bunny! Of course there will be an egg hunt. Ticket prices are \$4 for children and \$6 for adults. Everyone is invited to attend to help make this a special and fun event.

Volunteer help is always a phone call away and children over 11 are encouraged to help as well. There is always room for more helping hands to set up and clean up. If you have any questions or need further information, you can contact Melissa at 973-851-0694.



## St. Patrick's Day Dinner

LOUISE STALEY, CHAIRPERSON, CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE

### Tuesday, March 17 – 6 – 8 pm

Put on your favorite green outfit and join us at the Clubhouse for a traditional Irish dinner of corned beef and cabbage platter or sandwiches. Please bring a dessert to share. Adults \$10, Children 6 - 14 years old \$5 and children 5 and under are free. Advance tickets are available at the Clubhouse and walk-ins are welcome. Doors open at 5:30. Takeout available too!



## Upcoming Meetings

Clubhouse Committee – Wednesday, March 18 – 7 pm  
Communications Committee – Saturday, March 14 – 10 am  
Ecology Committee – Thursday, March 19 – 7 pm  
Fishing Committee – Thursday, March 19 – 8 pm  
Planning Committee – Tuesday, March 10 – 8 pm  
Roads Committee – Thursday, April 2 – 7 pm  
Voting Board Workshop – Wednesday, March 11 – 8 pm  
Voting Board Meeting – Friday, March 20 – 8 pm  
Since all meetings are subject to change, please confirm meeting times by contacting the chairperson of the committee or the Club office prior to the meeting time.

## Teen Nights Planned

MELISSA HARDIN, COORDINATOR

### Friday, March 14 - 7-9 pm

Calling all teens ages 10 – 16! Come down to the Clubhouse for our first Teen Night on March 14 and meet some other teens in Highland Lakes. Hang out for a night of pool, foosball, ping pong, board games and other games. Mark your calendars for the following Teen Nights as well: April 14, May 8 and June 13. Any questions, call me at 973-851-0694.





## HL Fire Fighers Honored

CATHIE KELLY

Congratulations to our Highland Lakes Fire Fighters, who were honored at the home of John and Evelina McNally; Mike Hainzel (25 years of Service), Tom Buchney (35 years of Service), Rich Spoerl (50 years of Service) and all our past and present HL Firefighters. We appreciate all they have done over the years keeping our community safe. Vernon Mayor Howard Burrell spoke of his admiration for their devotion they generously give to our community.



## Next Newsette: April 4, 2020

Newsette articles should be submitted on the Friday before the week of publication at noon. Under no circumstances will submissions be accepted after noon on Monday of the week of publication. Typed submissions must be emailed to the Club office at [hlcc@warwick.net](mailto:hlcc@warwick.net). Sorry – we can only print photographs submitted as .jpg files with a minimum of 150 dpi. Thanks!

*Thinking about a renovation or addition? Talk to an Architect!*

**Jim Schrinier, AIA**

Licensed Architect  
**(973) 764-5817**

1110 Lakeside Drive East  
(brown house across from beach 3)

*Free no obligation consultation meeting*

**HIGHLAND ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN, LLC**

[jim@highlandarchitectural.com](mailto:jim@highlandarchitectural.com) [www.highlandarchitectural.com](http://www.highlandarchitectural.com)

## Events Coordinator Appointed

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

I am pleased to announce that Roe Hall, a member of the Administrative staff, has been appointed Events Coordinator for the Club.

Since May 2017 all committees and all members organizing meetings, activities, and events had one point of responsive contact to reserve a date - Roe Hall - and her calendaring efforts have been welcomed. Furthermore, members needing to rent the Clubhouse for a family event were able to get timely responses to their requests.

Members have recently come forward and established new events and activities: Family Fun Night, a book club, and yoga by way of example. Roe Hall has provided guidance to them in organizing their activities. In my discussions with members over the past year it has become quite clear that members wish the Club to provide more social and fun activities for adults in the Clubhouse. Roe Hall will be supporting member volunteer efforts (we already have received an inquiry to start a home brewing club) while planning, organizing, and conducting entertainments, etc. for adults.

Watch the Club's website, read the Highland Lakes Newsette, and subscribe to the Club's email blasts - <http://eepurl.com/hbHRw> - to keep up-to-date on Club activities and events.

Mark your calendars for Comedy Night on Saturday, April 4 (doors open 8 pm / admission \$15). This is the first of many new entertainments for adults being planned for this year.

Have a suggestion for fun night or new activity? Please contact Roe Hall at [hlcc@warwick.net](mailto:hlcc@warwick.net) or at the office - 973-764-4366.

## Do you like to sing?

COMMUNITY CHORAL SOCIETY invites you to join our choir. We rehearse weekly in the Vernon Twp. High School Music Room on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 - 9 pm. All singers are welcome to join or just come and listen and see if you might be interested. Rehearsals are currently underway. For more information, visit our website at [www.c-c-s.yolasite.com](http://www.c-c-s.yolasite.com).

## Bunco

MARIAN BENEDICTO

Bunco is held the first Friday of each month at 7 pm. Come and join in the fun. Easy game – only need to know how to throw dice. Bring \$5 and a snack to share and yourself. RSVP - Need 6 people to play. Marian B. & Kathie G. 973-764-7998.

**ARE YOU READY  
FOR SOME  
BUNCO?**

## Playgroup Wants You!

ANA LOIBL, COORDINATOR, PLAYGROUP

Bring your little one (5 and under) down to the Clubhouse every Monday and Wednesday for some fun, crafts and games. We will meet from 10 am - 12 pm and we follow Vernon's school schedule regarding holidays and snow days. Sometimes, we meet at different local places outdoors and do activities. Please come to Playgroup to check out our outings and meet some new friends. We look forward to seeing you. Volunteers always welcome to help out.



## Adult Ceramics

ANGELA ABRAMS

Adult ceramics continues every Monday night at 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there.





## Ecology Committee Report

BARBARA JAGGI, CHAIRPERSON, ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

### February 20, 2020, Meeting

Chris Mikolajczyk, Certified Lake and Senior Project Manager with the Club's lake management consultant, Princeton Hydro, LLC, delivered its 2019 Annual Water Quality Report to the Ecology Committee on February 20. In addition to members of the Ecology Committee, members of the Fishing Committee and the Board of Trustees were also present along with Jack McLaughlin, General Manager.

Chris Mikolajczyk explained that overall the lakes are in good shape. Storm water sampling was recommended within the Lake 1 (Upper Highland Lake) watershed in order to identify areas of the watershed from which excess nutrients may be originating. Destratification (aeration) systems in the Main Lake (Highland Lake) will be checked to ensure that they are functional by late April. No changes are recommended for Indian Lake (East Highland Lake). Field personnel removed one invasive water chestnut and water lettuce from Lake Four (Upper East Highland Lake). Alum treatment is recommended as an experiment to control phosphorous in the lake. Club members are asked to photograph any possibly invasive weeds in any of our lakes and report to the Club. Lake Five (Upper West Highland Lake) might also benefit from storm water sampling.

Weather is the biggest factor in lake management. Heavy rainfall followed by a period of hot sunny weather will contribute to algae blooms. As per and Chris Mikolajczyk, together with General Manager Jack McLaughlin, published the following information in the July 2019 issue of the Newsette:

Algae occur naturally in all fresh and marine water environments. According to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) HAB webpage: ([//www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/HABS.html](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/HABS.html)):

"A bloom is a rapid increase or accumulation in the population of algae and algae-like bacteria in a water body. These "blooms" often result in a thick coating or mat on the surface of the water, which can also result in lowering the dissolved oxygen in the water column. In turn, low dissolved oxygen can be detrimental to aquatic organisms, particularly fish. Certain environmental conditions, such as sunlight, high nutrient concentrations, warm temperatures and calm water can favor the development of a bloom.

A harmful algal bloom (HAB) is an algal bloom that can be dangerous to people, animals or the ecology. Some, but not all, HABs produce chemicals that can be toxic to humans and animals if ingested, inhaled, or if contacted by skin or mucous membranes. These toxins can also accumulate in fish and shellfish which can cause illness when either are consumed. Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green

algae, are responsible for the majority of freshwater HAB occurrences. These are called CyanoHABs. Cyanobacteria are naturally present in lakes and streams and, can form both toxic (harmful) and non-toxic blooms. The toxic blooms can cause health effects when people and animals come in contact with them.

A member of the Fishing Committee asked if cyanobacteria can be toxic to fish. Chris responded that if toxic cyanobacteria are present in the lake it would be wise not to eat the fish.

However, not all algal blooms are harmful. Some are merely called "nuisance blooms" because they result in discolored water and/or offensive odors. While they are not dangerous, they can result in people choosing not to swim or recreate in water that is experiencing the bloom.

Data collected by Princeton Hydro are used to guide HLCC and Solitude Lake Management, Inc. (the contracted herbicide/algaecide treatment company) in the day-to-day management of the lakes. The objective of the monitoring programs to use the data in a pro-active manner to maximize the lakes' recreational usage, aesthetic attributes, and ecological services and functions. For this reason the monitoring program is focused on the collection of water quality data from May to September, commonly referred to as "the growing season".

The ability to effectively control most of the lakes' problems and minimize lake user impacts is the direct result of HLCC's pro-active management approach, which is guided by the lakes' water quality data and a strong line of communication between HLCC, Princeton Hydro, and Solitude.

This annual reporting and ensuing discussion is always informative, and I would strongly encourage all to attend these meetings in the future.

SAVE THE DATE: on April 25 Ecology Committee member Bob Taffer will run our annual Cleanup Day. Details will be posted in the April issue of the Newsette.

Clark Beebe's addition to last month's article on the red fox: Red foxes can be any color (silver and gray are common) and can have no red at all. The only coloration characteristic that absolutely defines the animal as a red fox is that the tip of the tail is white. Thank you Clark for this clarification.

NOTE: Please make sure to use environmentally friendly ice melt products. Keep storm drains in the vicinity of your property clear of debris, and PLEASE pick up and dispose of any trash that might have accumulated during the winter months. Pet waste should be disposed of properly in your trash, not left by the side of the road.

## Help Wanted Athletics Director

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Recruitment is underway for the position of Athletics Director for the 2020 summer season. The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic leader of the Club's athletics programs, and be highly organized in planning and conducting the summer athletics activities. The Director must have a generalized knowledge of competitive sports, rules and equipment requirements, and be able to solicit advice from various participants regarding rules, procedures and equipment needs. The ability to successfully interact with children and their parents, adult and youth volunteers, and Club officials and staff is essential.

Duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Plans and implements program and activity schedules.
- Develops and publishes program highlights, schedules, rules, rosters, etc. for the Highland Lakes Newsette on a weekly basis.
- Arranges for the inspection of Club athletic facilities during late April with the Maintenance Superintendent; issues work order requests to rectify any issues identified during the walk-through.
- Develops activity sign-up books for placement at the Activity Center; identifies volunteers from the sign-ups; communicates with parents and children as to scheduling.
- Ensures that all participants are members in good standing of Highland Lakes by working with the Club Office, and that all participants have submitted satisfactorily-completed Parent Permission Forms prior to participation.
- Conducts, where appropriate, drafts of players to ensure the proportionate assignment of skilled players to various teams; prevents the manipulation of rosters for competitive advantage.
- Conducts inventory of uniforms and equipment in late April; prepares order for approval by the General Manager; continually reviews uniform and equipment needs based on sign-ups and enrollments; ensures sufficient stock for late enrollments.
- Maintains the Athletics Hotline, leaving up-to-date messages on scheduling, schedule changes, and rain-outs.
- Ensures appropriate team discipline; instructs coaches and volunteers on procedures to clear litter from areas at the conclusion of activities.

Throughout the summer, the Athletics Director can be expected to follow a 35-40 hour weekly work schedule involving daytime, evening and weekend hours, including activities and events in the evening.

Resumes, references and a letter of interest should be immediately submitted to Jack McLaughlin, General Manager, Highland Lakes Country Club and Community Association, PO Box 578, Highland Lakes, New Jersey 07422, or by email to [hlcc@warwick.net](mailto:hlcc@warwick.net). The position will be filled as soon as possible.



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## Plant a Tradition: Create a Living Legacy

CLARK BEEBE, ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

Check if you are near a septic line. Tree roots can destroy septic lines.

Allow the tree sufficient room. Remember that the small root ball you plant will grow to have a canopy 30 feet or more. You don't want branches damaging your house. Take the projected final height, crown diameter, rate of growth and life expectancy into consideration. Some species like birch or aspen start to die after 50 to 60 years. You will want your legacy tree(s); your new family tradition to stand a greater test of time than that. So, do your homework and go plant a family tradition. Open a young mind. Create that special intergenerational go-to spot in nature.

Now, to all of HLCC, I have a request. I will try to publish this article in a magazine for outreach beyond this Newsette. What I ask is if you have a photo of a smiling child hugging a tree, planting a tree, standing beside a tree--preferably with you smiling alongside, please send those photos to me. I will need to add a few photos for any magazine article. (If your photo is selected, you will be contacted for a release.)

As we age, we think of our children, our grandchildren, our legacy. And most of us want to create family traditions and intergenerational bonds that will continue long after we are gone.

I was at the NJ State Fair staffing The American Chestnut Foundation booth when a five year old boy came up to talk about trees. But he had no interest in hearing about chestnut trees. He wanted to tell me about his tree; the one he had personally planted. His excitement and pride of ownership were palpable, contagious, inspiring. As I listened he provided details on the species, its growth rate, and its eventual full size. I suggested that his parents start a tradition. I proposed they take a photo of the boy and his tree every year and then make an album to record their mutual growth.

I now encourage each of you to do the same, start a tradition, plant a tree with each child or grandchild when they hit the age of five or six. (Maybe, just to be safe, plant two or three because not all trees survive and thrive.) If you have room, let them become a grove as more children plant more trees. Make it a family gathering site; even when someone who planted one of the trees is no longer around. Make it an outdoor refuge of peace to grieve, to mourn; and eventually to fondly remember, to celebrate. Get the child involved! Let him/her help pick the species and the site. Discuss the pros and cons of different species such as the seeds creating a mess on the lawn beneath. Make sure they get their hands in the dirt during the planting. Let them take ownership. Teach them about such trees. Peak their interest in nature, create a bond with Mother Earth.

Do your homework. Don't plant a tree that does not thrive or even dies. Check with a forester about what native species will do well on the site. I stress native because you do not want to plant an exotic that could be invasive. (Believe it or not, many such species are sold by landscape suppliers all the time). Decide what type of seeds or fruit the tree will produce. Do you want to attract particular animal species? Will the tree's pollen be an issue?

There are other aspects you should check to ensure a successful planting. Is the soil right? Is it clay or sand? Some trees need an acidic soil; some won't tolerate acidic conditions. (Once established, some trees will create an acidic soil. Will your lawn or garden tolerate that?) Will it get enough or too much sun? Some trees can't tolerate direct sun; others require it. Is the soil hydrology appropriate? Some trees require dampness; others want their feet dry.

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Please, Clean Up After Your Dog

Be nice to your neighbors – please clean up dog messes after walking your dog. Township ordinances require that you control your dog – this includes properly disposing of dog messes on your property, your neighbor’s property or club property. Thank you.

Photos Wanted

ROE HALL, ADMIN. ASST./EVENTS COORDINATOR

Build our Nixplay

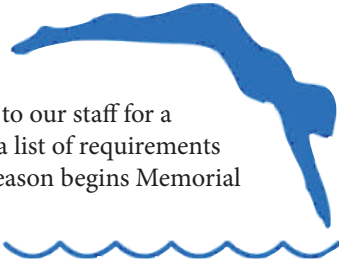
Highland Lakers--Do you have some great pictures from any of our recent events or photos of our beautiful Highland Lakes? Submit your pictures to hlcc@warwick.net. Be sure to include your name so we can give you proper photo credit. Thank you.

Help Wanted – Lifeguards, Lifeguard Instructors and Water Safety Instructors

KAITLYN NIX, WATER SAFETY DIRECTOR

The Club is anticipating openings in our Water Safety department this summer. Consider applying to our staff for a lifeguard position. Below is a list of requirements and expectations. Our pre season begins Memorial Day weekend and consists of weekends in June. Starting in the last week of June, the regular season continues daily until Labor Day. You should expect to work both during the week and on weekends.

You must be Lifeguard/CPR/First Aid certified - Waterfront is also necessary, but you can be certified for \$35 by HLCC if you don’t have it.



The Mighty Seniors

JOYCE HEALY, PRESIDENT, SENIOR CLUB

Hi, everyone. Even if you’ve begun reading this and you’re NOT an S/C member...Howdy, to you, too. I have it on good authority that many folks read the Senior Club articles and that’s great. It’s a joy to sit at the computer and gather my thoughts (no matter how far they scatter) and try to find inspiration. Well, those who know me, also have it on good authority that I look for inspiration from only THE BEST... and you probably get that... if you don’t, look up. So, this month’s bit of news comes straight from my heart. No need to promote more negativity than what is overly abundant in this world---just want to lighten things up. Here comes a multitudinous, manifold, myriad of plentiful, populous and profuse puns and jokes. Whew! Had to refer to the old thesaurus for that one!

Here goes---GROANER TIME:

- 1. Did you hear about the thief who stole a surfboard? He escaped on a crime wave.
- 2. I entered ten puns in a pun contest hoping one would win....But no pun in ten did.
- 3. Hey, someone stole my mood ring. I don’t know how I feel about it.
- 4. What do you call a petite mother? A minimum.
- 5. When does Sean Connery arrive at Wimbledon? Tennish.
- 6. What do you call a cow with a twitch? Beef jerky.
- 7. What do you get when you cross a sheep and a porcupine? An animal that can sew its own sweater.
- 8. How did Reese eat her ice cream? Witherspoon.
- 9. Why did the Romanian stop reading at night? He wanted to give the Bucharest.
- 10. Why did Shakespeare write in ink? Because he couldn’t decide what pencil to use...2B or not 2B (Sorry).
- 11. How does a mathematician plow his fields? With a protractor.
- 12. What do you call 2 monkeys who share an Amazon account? Prime mates.
- 13. What did Donald Duck say in his graduate physics class? Quark, quark, quark.
- 14. What is the name of the first electricity detective? Sherlock Ohms.
- 15. What do you call a map guide to Alcatraz? A con-tour map.
- 16. What rock group has 4 men that don’t sing? Mount Rushmore.

Okay, then. A-hem...Enough of that bunch of sillies. Here’s some up to the date news of S/C happenings. We had a WONDERFUL pot luck luncheon on Valentine’s Day with about 40 in attendance. Great food, even GREATER people with big hearts not only on 2/14, but all year. Being a senior has its definite advantages...an edge over many when it comes to life experiences and finesse.

BIG NEWS:\*\*\*ST. PATTY’S DAY LUNCHEON will be held on Tuesday, March 17. New location – The Lamp Post Inn 12 p, corned beef lunch. Please call me ASAP to get on the list and get the details for the day. I must give Sal the number attending. Call me, call me, call me: 845-544-3749.

April’s luncheon will be on the 15th at 12 noon in the Lake Room. We can decide on pot luck or not with a little help from the leprechauns present at the St. Pat’s lunch. It’s always such a pleasure being with you. We are a BIG happy family and we welcome new members all the time. If you’ve reached your 50th birthday and you’re a member in good standing in HL, please know we’d love to meet you and have you try us on for size. Last year’s membership rolls hit 90! So very cool. Let’s try to top 100 this year! Have any questions, comments and nice things to say about others... give me a call. Need a ride to a get together? Want to learn more about the S/C? Again, give me a call: 845-544-3749. Love ya, Joyce H.

Lost and Found

Highland Lakes Security is attempting to locate the owners of two bikes left outside of the Clubhouse at the end of the summer and which have remained unclaimed. These bikes will be disposed of after March 13, 2020. Please contact Troy Bowers, Security Manager at 973-764-4266 to claim a bike. In order to verify ownership, you must provide a description of the bike (include distinguishing markings if available), a receipt or owner’s manual for the bike, or a photograph of the bike.

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## Comedy Night

ROE HALL, ADMIN. ASST./EVENTS COORDINATOR

**Saturday, April 4 at 9 pm**

Mark your calendars for an exciting night of NYC talent here on the Seckler Stage. Comedians headlining the night have performed up and down the east coast. Mike Gaffney who has appeared at most clubs in NYC, performed on Gotham Comedy Live and was a semi-finalist on 2014's Last Comic Standing and also hosts a weekly podcast "The Disgruntle Dad". Also appearing will be Mick Thomas, born in Wexford, Ireland, Mick is swiftly becoming one of the most sought after acts in Clubs and Casinos. Mick has also appeared at Stand Up NY and The Comedy Cellar and also Gotham Comedy Live on AXS TV. Highland Lakes members and their guests are welcome. Doors open at 8 pm so you can come to the Clubhouse early to hang out and socialize with friends and neighbors. Bring your own snacks and drinks. A fun night is planned for all, tickets at the door \$15.



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