



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 5 | June 13, 2020

From the President's Desk

MICHAEL GELFAND, PRESIDENT

Most, if not all of us, find ourselves caught in a swirl of emotions resulting from societal lockdown and recent civil unrest. It's unnerving and puts all of us on edge regardless of our own personal belief system. Basic human needs and simple interactions are suddenly loaded with apprehension. We're oversaturated with news, opinions, data and misinformation, and battered by competing priorities and political polarization, leaving us confused and/or frustrated about what we can, can't, should and shouldn't be doing.

In following executive orders from New Jersey's Governor Murphy related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Club recently moved to reopen some of its operations over Memorial Day weekend. The Club continues to closely monitor his comments about plans for a second stage of reopenings, and is acutely aware of his statements that any major resurgence in illnesses would cause a reversal of those plans. Clearly, if we've learned anything over these past weeks and months, it's that plans change as necessity calls, so—like it or not—we must stay ready to change course at all times.

Some of you will find relief knowing that aspects of life in Highland Lakes are slowly returning closer to normal. And others find no solace in it whether you feel it's too slow or too soon. Regardless, it's important to keep things in perspective: no summer activities would be underway at this point, and our beaches would not start opening on a daily basis for a few more weeks.

It's important to reiterate that the Club continues to operate under emergency orders from New Jersey's governor and follows the directives mandated by state and county health regulators. I've received a number of calls and emails from members who have voiced their anger and disappointment about how the Club is operating under these circumstances. What these members fail to understand is that the Club doesn't get to cherry-pick which restrictions it will follow and which ones it will ignore—we are required to adhere to all of the guidelines from state and county regulators. The operational decisions the Club has made during these extraordinary times directly reflects our legal obligation and duty to our members to operate safely in accordance with the law. Those obligations and duties, above all else, are what guides these decisions.

The Memorial Day weekend was relatively uneventful, and members largely did their parts to ensure that things went smoothly. Compliance with social distancing guidelines is still a requirement on Club property, and is strongly recommended off of it. Respecting each other's rights remains a moral requirement, as well, even if you don't agree with someone else's personal perspectives or decisions. If you're uncomfortable going to one of our beaches because other people will be there who might wear facemasks, don't go; social distancing is mandatory, and

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Thanks to Chastity Cortijo for sending in these photos of her backyard friends sunbathing on Lake 4

Another Fishing Season Upon Us

NICOLE MARCH, FISHING AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEES

The sun is shining, the birds are singing and the bass are spawning! Yet the excitement of getting out on the water as the weather warms up can bring about the tendency to skip a few key preparations so we've devised a small checklist to help get you ready.

Check the line on your reels by pulling a few yards off the spool and inspecting it for brittleness as sitting unused for extended periods of time can cause dry rotting or memory issues. Fluorocarbon and braid will last longer but monofilament has a rather short lifespan and should be replaced seasonally to prevent you from breaking off that 'big one' next time you're on the water. Rods and reels should also be inspected for physical damage as a guide on a rod that has a groove or deep nick in it can easily cut your line when bringing in a fish; and a loose reel handle falling off mid cast isn't anyone's idea of a fun time.

When it comes to soft plastics - as many of us know all too well - early in the season you are often greeted with a melted mess of plastic flukes, grubs and unrecognized glittered baits congealed in a ball as soon as you open that tackle box. This happens for

different reasons, one simply being that different plastics don't mingle well together and should either be kept in separate compartments, a zippered worm bag, or the original packaging they came in. Go through your soft plastics and spinner bait skirts and dispose of any that have taken a turn for the worse and be sure the compartments are clean and dry after each fishing trip before closing the lid completely.

Hard baits should be checked over to ensure all of the hooks are in good shape as rust and dull or broken tips can result in missed strikes. If it's only a matter of surface rust or a slightly dull point taper, a hook hone may get the job done sufficiently enough, but if they have been around to the point that they look like they've been at the bottom of the ocean for a while, it might be time to swap them out for new hooks. While this isn't a complete list by any means, we hope that it will help you knock out a few major things on that checklist and inspire you to brush the dust off that fishing gear.

And just as a reminder, be respectful when fishing

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near docks and don't cast into or near roped off swimming areas. Disregarded fishing line poses a hazard to the wildlife and the environment, so whether you are out on the boat or fishing from shore; hold on to those cut pieces of line until you can dispose of them properly. You can also find numerous white fishing line recycling tubes near beaches and docks throughout our 5 lakes for disposal.



Claiming a Boat Rack or Boat Dock Space

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Except for dock space permanently assigned before February 15, 2019, all boat dock spaces marked with the OPEN plate at Club Park, Comet Row, Beach 3, and Beach 4, and unmarked spaces at neighborhood freeways and other locations, are available on a first-come/first-served basis only. Storage of boats on Club property is subject to Rule No. 25.

Use of the boat docks is restricted at all times to members displaying their current year permits (previous year permits are valid through May 31 – date extended to June 30 in 2020). Spots may be claimed for the season only by placing your boat with a current year permit in the spot. Placing a boating permit on a dock without a boat does not claim a space. As a courtesy, members seeking boat rack space are requested to avoid taking any rack spot that has a previous year's boating permit until after May 31 (date extended to June 30 in 2020).

Please note: all boat dock spaces at Eckhart Sailing Center, except for those permanently assigned before February 15, 2019, are reserved for active Junior/Senior sailing fleet members and members with special needs.

The Highland Lakes Newsette

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and Community Association
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Communications Committee and
all of our contributors
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Badge Checkers Needed

URSULA FAHMY, CHAIRPERSON, BADGE CHECKING

Join Our Committee – Get Appreciated

Volunteers are desperately needed for badge checking for the 2020 season. What a great way to accumulate your 20 hours and also enjoy our lovely beaches. If you are interested, please call any of the following captains. Let's all do a little something for our community!

Beach 1	Ursula Fahmy	973-764-6539
Beach 2	Sue Buruchian	973-271-0227
Beach 3	Mike McCleary	973-764-9131
Beach 4	Pat Gillooley	973-764-4459
Beach 5	Madeline Brancato	973-764-7486
Beach 6	Joann La Rocca	973-764-7329
Beach 7	Herbert Wetzler	973-764-2703

Summer Garbage Pickup

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

First pickup - Monday, July 6

The Club's summer garbage pickup for ten weeks with Blue Diamond Disposal begins on Monday, July 6. Garbage pickup services continue on Mondays throughout the summer and end on Tuesday, September 8 (due to Labor Day holiday). The schedule is as follows: July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. The last pickup will be Tuesday, September 8. Please remember - your garbage must be out by 6:30 am on collection day.

Household garbage removal services through the Club are limited to one toter (supplied by Waste Management or Blue Diamond to their year-round customers) or the equivalent of three, 32 gallon regular size household garbage cans. Only household refuse will be picked up – no bulky waste, tires, construction debris, etc. and recycling is not provided.

Customers of Blue Diamond or Waste Management will be receiving letters explaining the amount of the credit you are entitled to on your invoice if you have paid your dues and assessments in full before Club services begin on July 6. Please note that both haulers will continue to provide recycling services to you, for which you will be invoiced, during the Club's ten week period of service by Blue Diamond.

Only members in good standing are entitled to credits on their invoice for garbage removal services. In order to ensure that you are provided with garbage service through the Club's contract with Blue Diamond, please recognize that until further changes in New Jersey's public health emergency orders occur, your dues and assessments must be paid not later than Thursday, July 2 in order to ensure sufficient processing time before the first pickup on July 6. Customers paying their Club balances after the commencement of services will receive a reduced, prorated credit on their invoices from Blue Diamond or Waste Management.

Beach Testing Results

Below are the results of the most recent E. coli testing at the Club's beaches and swim lanes performed by Garden State Laboratories, Inc. Weekly tests are required by the State of New Jersey, and results must not exceed 320 organisms per 100 milliliter. All samples conformed to NJ State recreational bathing standards. Testing results are also reported by the lab to the Sussex County Department of Health.

	5/21	5/28	6/3
Beach 1	2.0	5.2	<1
Beach 2 – Clubhouse	4.1	3.1	.0
Beach 3 – Lookover Lane	30.9	5.2	14.6
Beach 4 – Bushwick	34.1	0	4.1
Beach 5 – E. Lakeshore Dr.	7.5	7.4	2.0
Beach 6 – W. Lakeshore Dr.	37.3	1	2.0
Beach 7 – Upper HL Dr.	2.0	1	<1
Swim Lanes – Clubhouse	10.9	2.0	8.6

Swim Lesson Update

KAITLYN NIX, WATER SAFETY DIRECTOR

We anticipate conducting swim lessons as NJ enters Phase 2 of its reopening plan addressing the coronavirus.

Social distancing guidelines are anticipated to be in effect for the duration of the beach season. As a result, changes are necessary in order to conduct swim lessons with the safety of the children and our staff of prime importance. Therefore, a parent or guardian will be required to accompany the child in the water in the following levels (a description of each level is provided):

- Level 1 (enter water independently, swim 5 yards, perform 5 bobs and exit water, glide on belly for 5 seconds and roll to back float for 5 seconds and recover to vertical position).
- Level 2 (enter water up to chest, push off bottom into treading and floating position for 15 seconds each, push off bottom and swim on front or back for 10 yards and move into back float for 15 seconds, roll back to front and recover to vertical position).
- Level 3 (jump into deep water, recover to surface and maintain position by treading (water) for 1 minute then float on back for 1 minute, swim front crawl for 25 yards, swim elementary backstroke for 25 yards, swim front crawl for 15 yards and turn around and swim back crawl for 15 yards).

Water Safety staff will not touch any child during the lesson. Staff will be practicing social distancing from students and parents during the lesson as well as enforcing social distancing among the students.

The signup form for swim lessons with instructions for submission to the Club is available on the Club's website at <https://hlcc.org/oldsite/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Swim-Lesson-Registraton-Form-Final-20200.05.15.pdf>. You are encouraged to register your child as soon as possible as space and lesson times may be limited due to social distancing and staff availability. Questions: Please feel free to leave a message on the Water Safety Hotline - 973.764.7797, and a member of our staff will get back in touch with you.

President's Desk from page 1

protective masks are strongly encouraged where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, but they aren't required. Similarly, if you refuse to follow social distancing guidelines and want to cause a scene, you should stay home or do it elsewhere, because that is just plain disrespectful of others.

All of us are responsible for maintaining social distancing guidelines—stay six feet away from anyone who isn't a family member living under the same roof. It's not that complicated; imagine a large black bear standing between you and everyone else, the rest will fall into place from there. If we work together, respect each other, and act appropriately, everyone across the spectrum of concern should be able to enjoy themselves on our beaches, docks, lakes and roads as much as their friends, neighbors and fellow members.

Social distancing is required—no exceptions. All members must maintain six feet between themselves and anyone who doesn't live under the same roof as them.

Please note the following:

- Members are strongly encouraged to wear facemasks when out in public. Facemasks are not a requirement. Whether you choose to wear one or not, please be mindful of everyone else's rights, as well as your personal responsibility to those around you.
- Beaches 1, 2, 3, and 7 will continue with preseason hours on weekends, though the swim floats are closed due to social distancing requirements.
- Capacity limitations on our beaches are based on the six-foot social distancing requirement dictated by the Sussex County Division of Health. The following are the lower limit capacities of the following beaches based on ALL individuals at the beach living under different roofs:
 - Beach 1 open 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., capacity of no more than 145 people
 - Beach 2 open 12 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., capacity of no more than 103 people
 - Beach 3 open 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., capacity of no more than 75 people
 - Beach 7 open 12 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., capacity of no more than 18 people
- Once any beach's capacity has been reached, members will not be allowed to access it until there is adequate space for them. Out of common courtesy, members should not park blankets and chairs without being on the beach.
- Lifeguards will be on duty at all open beaches. Please do not approach them. They are required to wear facemasks when unable to maintain social distancing, and they have a difficult job to do under normal circumstances. Their jobs are much harder now, so please treat them with the respect

they deserve, and let them work without unnecessary distractions.

- The bathrooms at the Beach Hut at Beach 1 will be open during beach hours only, and cleaned at least twice daily. Use them at your own risk.
 - Portable bathrooms will be available for use on Beaches 2, 3, and 7, and are supposed to be equipped with hand sanitizer, but do not anticipate that hand sanitizer will remain available at all times in every unit throughout every day. Instead, please bring your own just in case. The Club will clean these units at least twice daily. Use them at your own risk.
 - When using public bathrooms, it's always wise to bring hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes, wear a mask, close the lid of the toilet when you flush (if possible) and thoroughly wash your hands. The safest course: Keep your beach visit short enough that using public restrooms won't be necessary—to minimize unnecessary risks, make sure the entire family takes care of business at home and changes into swimsuits before leaving home.
 - The Beach Hut vending and water fountain at Beach 1 will remain closed until further notice.
 - Membership badges must be worn on Club property by members at all times to ensure that beaches are only being used by members and authorized guests.
 - Guest badges—strict limits for each beach will be established by the Voting Board and publicized on the Club's website. Anticipate that members will be limited to a small number of guest badges per day, valid only on the day of purchase.
 - Cars without valid membership badges displayed will be ticketed and may have a difficult-to-remove "Warning" affixed to a window.
 - The Club Office, Activity Center, and Clubhouse will remain closed until further notice as required under various Executive Orders permitting only essential businesses, with significant restrictions, to be open. If you need to contact office personnel for any reason, call 973-764-4366 or email hlcc@warwick.net.
 - Badges are being distributed by mail only to members who have paid their dues and assessments in full. The 2019 badges and permits are valid until June 30, 2020, as a result of the Voting Board's suspension of late payment charges. However, unless you have been assigned a permanent dock space under the former boat lottery system, you may not claim a space on a dock or boat rack unless you have your 2020 boating permit AND you place your boat in the spot.
- Have fun, stay safe. More info to come about summer activities, events, meetings and happenings in the days to come.

Pre-season Beach Hours

Pre-season weekends

Beach 1 and Beach 3 will continue to be open from 11 am to 6 pm

Beach 2 and 7 will continue to be open from 12 pm to 5:30 pm

Pre-season weekdays

Beginning Thursday June 11:

Beach 1 and Beach 3 - 11 am to 6 pm

Beach 2 and Beach 7 - 12 pm to 5:30 pm

All beaches to be open with regular season hours beginning Saturday June 27. Beaches 4, 5, and 6 open based on staff availability.

As a reminder:

Beach 1 - capacity of no more than 145 people

Beach 2 - capacity of no more than 103 people

Beach 3 - capacity of no more than 75 people

Beach 7 - capacity of no more than 18 people

For Everyone's Safety

DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

CORONAVIRUS



STOP THE SPREAD

COVID-19

BEACH CAPACITY LIMITATIONS APPLY

SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIRED INCLUDING STAYING SIX-FEET APART FROM NON-HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

FACE COVERINGS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

Our Community Must Do Its Part

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Swim Team Registration

For your convenience Swim Team sign ups are available now online. It is unlikely that competitions against other lakes will take place. The Club, the Swim Team parents' board, and coaches are committed to moving forward with an instructional season. Plans include socially distanced practices, dry-land exercises, and competitive virtual time trials within the team. More details to be discussed and planned with parents at the pre-season parents meeting – announcement of date to be made shortly.

Swim Team News

We anticipate conducting swim team as NJ enters Phase 2 of its reopening plan addressing the coronavirus.



Tom Watson

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Sailing 2020

LOU IANNUCCI, SAILING COORDINATOR

Hello Sailors,

I hope this note finds you and your family in good health. Like you, I am eager to restart our lives and get our boats back into the water and start our sailing season. Per Governor Murphy's executive order 149: Organized sporting activities are permitted in outdoor settings only, provided that they do not involve person-to-person contact or routinely entail individuals interacting within six feet of one another. Any sporting activities that involve person-to-person contact or individuals routinely interacting in close proximity (within six feet of one another) will remain prohibited in any setting.

So, what does that mean for the 2020 sailing season: The bad news: We have decided to cancel the Junior Doubles races on Fridays this year because it would be impossible to maintain the social distance that is required. There would be too many non-family members sharing boats, and if you have ever been at the sailing dock on Fridays, you know the chaos.

The good news: We feel the Junior Single Races on Wednesdays can be allowed as long as the junior

sailors keep their distance from each other, and this is where parents or guardians need to step up and make sure your child understands the requirements. If we find that social distancing is not followed, we will be required to cancel future races.

All other races this season will go on as planned, but as a community, we still need to keep our required social distance. So, no gatherings on the sailing dock before or after the races. Only the starting committees should be on the dock. Spectators will not be allowed on the dock while the starting committees are running the races. Will we have an All Boat Regatta at the end of the year? Will we have a sailor's picnic in September? There is no way for me to answer these questions today.

Finally, as we all know, the FJ boat requires a crew. Traditionally this boat has been crewed by family members and friends. For this sailing season to maintain the proper requirements, you need to have family only in the boat. Thank you and see you on the lake. Any questions, you can contact me at hlccsailing@gmail.com or 973-764-7042.



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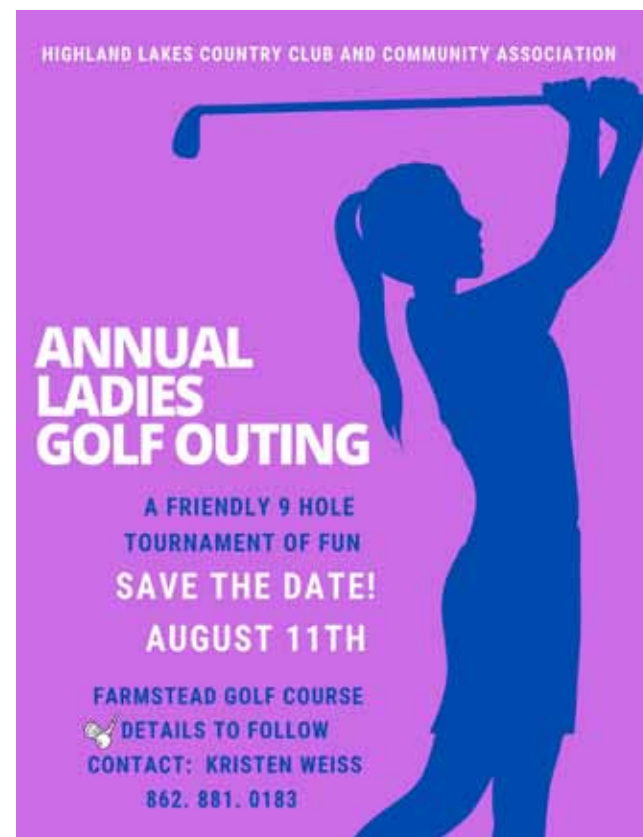
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Beach Monitors Needed

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Badges, Social Distancing and Capacity Limitation Enforcement

The Club has an immediate need for Beach Monitors within the Highland Lakes Security department to ensure compliance with the conditions imposed on public recreational bathing beaches, and the Club's requirements that badges and parking permits are required at all times. Some of the conditions of the licenses to operate its beaches required the Club to establish and enforce capacity limitations and social distancing, additional tasks requiring an adult presence at our larger beaches.

Beach Monitors will be assigned to Beaches 1, 2, 3, and 4, limiting access to persons with badges only, and enforcing social distancing on the beaches and prohibiting additional entry if capacity has been reached. Where volunteer Badge Checkers are present, you will assist them in the performance of their efforts. While cooperation is anticipated, it cannot be guaranteed, and it is likely that Highland Lakes Security will need to respond to the beach.

Beach Monitors will have weekday and weekend schedules reflecting the hours of beach operation. You will be assigned a schedule of up to eight hours daily over a seven day weekly schedule, with a paid lunch break if taken on site. Fewer hours and days will be assigned if additional staff is available. The rate of pay is \$11.00 per hour. If you are interested in the position, are a member in good standing, not planning a summer vacation away from Highland Lakes, are able to work at least four, eight hours days weekly including weekends, send an email to hlcc@warwick.net expressing your interest and requesting an application, or call 973.764.4366.

Aqua Aerobics on Hold

We anticipate conducting aqua aerobics at Beach 1 as NJ enters Phase 2 of its reopening plan addressing the coronavirus. Look for updates.



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Help Wanted - Security

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Weekdays and Weekends/Days/Nights

The Club will be hiring additional Security personnel over the summer months. Depending on performance and availability, the position may extend beyond Labor Day.

Duties will focus on checking the Clubhouse, parks, freeways, beaches and athletic facilities for badges and parking permits, and boating areas for authorized use and proper storage. Additional support of Beach Monitors at various beaches is anticipated. Day and evening shifts throughout the week will be available. Staff will be trained in first aid/CPR/oxygen administration/AE.

Candidates must have clean driver's licenses. The rate of pay is \$11.00 per hour. If you are interested in the position, are a member in good standing, not planning a summer vacation away from Highland Lakes, are able to work days or evenings, including weekends, send an email to hlcc@warwick.net expressing your interest and requesting an application, or call 973.764.4366.

Help Wanted - Maintenance

JACK MCLAUGHLIN, GENERAL MANAGER

Focused on sanitizing Club facilities

The Club is in need of additional maintenance personnel over the summer months. Depending on performance and availability, the position may extend beyond Labor Day.

Duties will focus on sanitizing, multiple times daily, the bathrooms at the Beach Hut, eight portable bathrooms at six beaches and other facilities, and the offices, bathrooms, tables, chairs, etc. at the Clubhouse once it opens. Other duties include trimming of bushes, grooming facilities, weeding the rain garden and planters, etc.

Candidates must have clean driver's licenses and be willing to use their own personal vehicles to move about the community (per mile reimbursement will be provided). Social distancing must be practiced at all times. Personal protective masks and gloves will be provided. The rate of pay is \$11.00 per hour. Day and evening hours throughout the week and during weekends are required.

If you are interested in the position, are a member in good standing, not planning a summer vacation away from Highland Lakes, are able to work days or evenings, including evenings and weekends, send an email to hlcc@warwick.net expressing your interest and requesting an application, or call 973.764.4366.

Communications Committee Meeting Review

SUE ROSS, CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee held its second virtual meeting on May 16 and welcomed Lee Eisenberg, trustee from Section 7, to its ranks. The Voting Board assigns representatives to participate in committee meetings and these representatives provide the Board with an update of committee happenings at regularly scheduled Voting Board meetings.

Thanks to committee member, Rory Byra, our committee is now set to share documents, pictures and articles on a Google Drive. Rory set up the folders for us and provided a brief tutorial about how the Google platform works. Our intention is to foster collaboration between committee members by saving our work to that drive which will enable easy sharing and editing. In addition to discussing our upcoming editorial schedule for the Newsette's feature article, members also talked about a slide show that we will be creating to honor Highland Lakes' 2020 graduates. Nicole March, Kathy Piazza and Rory will be putting that together over the next month, and we'll be posting it to our Facebook page when it's ready for prime time.

If you enjoy writing, graphic and web design, photography, editing, or other communication related pursuits, consider joining our committee. Send me an email at communications@hlcc.org. Our committee meets every other month for about an hour. Most of the work we do is independent, but we learn from one another as we go. Also, we are building a library of photos. If you have a photo that you've taken of our beautiful lakes and surrounding areas, share it with us so that we can share it with others. Use the same email address. Let us hear from you.



Our local Blue Heron captured by Chastity Cortijo

Goodwill Fund Community Yard Sale

NANCY EISENBERG AND LIZ HOLDA, CO-CHAIRPERSONS, GOODWILL FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Yard Sale Cancelled

In an abundance of caution because of uncertainty surrounding restrictions and concerns about the health and safety of all, this year's Community Yard Sale in July will not be held as usual. We have determined that the nature of the event makes social distancing impossible to achieve. Taking into account the importance of this event

to the Fund and our community, we are investigating other options. We will announce updates and they will be posted on our website and through email blast. We once again thank you for your continued support over the past 10 years. Your efforts have helped the Fund grow so we can continue to be "Neighbors Helping Neighbors".

Ecology Corner

BOB REFFELT, ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

Gravity, Storm Water Runoff and Rain Gardens

We are all familiar with the effects of gravity and the fact that it makes water run downhill. When we have storms, rain water will also carry other things downhill with it. Most of those items are undesirable and usually end up in a place where they cause harm to our lakes and watershed. Storm water management is an attempt to mitigate the undesirable effects of storm water runoff. Here in Highland Lakes we are continually taking actions to manage storm runoff. One key example is the rain garden that was created when we paved the parking lot at the Clubhouse. In addition to adding storm drains and filters beneath the paved parking area, we also provided a beautiful place to slow down, capture and filter additional storm runoff.

Everyone in our community contributes in some way to storm water runoff and the contaminants it transports. When it rains water runs off our roofs, driveways and lawns. One of the actions we can take to mitigate runoff on our private property is to build a rain garden in a place where rain water rushes downhill onto the street, onto someone else's property, or directly into our lakes and streams. The plants in a rain garden also support pollinators which are becoming in short supply as we continue to use general use pesticides. So why not consider a rain garden or some type of plant buffer to reduce storm water runoff? Here's a link to help you understand the problem and ways to deal with it. <https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=Q2EoHBnCCII>



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Available Now: Permission and Registration Forms for Swim Team, Club Events, Activities, and Athletics, and Swim Lessons

Forms are now available for your convenience to complete on-line, and then download and print to register your children for the various teams, events, etc. and swim lessons. Once completed, the forms may be submitted by email, mailed, or placed through the mail slot in the Club Office door.

The forms replace the traditional sign-up books normally available beginning Memorial Day weekend at the Activity Center for parents to sign up their children for the Swim Team, various Clubhouse events, activities, and the athletics programs, and for swim lessons. With the Clubhouse closed until further notice, this permission and registration option was created and you are encouraged to use it as much as possible.

As of May 14, 2020, it is not known if/when the Club's

Swim Team, athletics programs, Clubhouse activities and events, beaches, and swim lessons, etc. will be available. Summer season planning remains underway though with great uncertainty. Decisions made by Club leadership will be based on the status of the public health emergency declared by Governor Murphy, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, guidance from the NJ Department and Health and the Sussex County Division of Health, and the Club's assessment of social distancing requirements, community concerns, etc.

Where to find the forms? In the blue ribbon on the Club's home page by clicking the link FORMS on far right or on the home page – in the right rail – below the At a glance section

Bocce Season Underway

JOE PIERINI, COORDINATOR

Thursday, June 4 was this season's grand opening. We had a good turnout for the opener, with two novice players and the sun was shining. Three good games plus a bonus fourth for those who wished. Some people are interested in playing twice a week. So we'll play Tuesday at 1 as well as Thursday--at least for a while, until conflicting and competing activities resume.

It's worth a try. Hope to see you. call if you wish. It's best to email so I get your email address and thus can keep you updated. My email address is NYGeorge@Aol.com. If you buy the beer, I'll explain about the address. Or, if you decide at the last moment, just show up.

Bocce is played every Thursday at 1 pm; 12:45 for those

who don't mind raking a little. Bocce is an easy game to play. By the way, boccie is the way my computer insists on spelling the word. No matter how you spell it, the game is not so easy to win. Aside from a partner being remarkably unlucky, the game is characterized by miraculous shots, leaving onlookers unbelieving yet also admiring. If you are not the miracle worker, all of your skill and care (or lack of skill and care) suddenly counts for nothing. So the main appeal is being outside, moving about, getting a little tired (usually 3 games, eight players per game, about 1 1/2 hours), and seeing friends. Oh yes, social distancing kibitzing too.

2020 HLCC Sailing Fleet Schedule

LOU IANNUCCI, SAILING COORDINATOR

We anticipate conducting sailing races as NJ enters Phase 2 of its reopening plan addressing the coronavirus.

Below are the 2020 HLCC sailing fleet schedules. All races begin at the Eckhart Sailing Center located on Lakeside Drive West south of the intersection with Alturas Road.

***Please note there will be no Jr. Doubles Sunfish races on Fridays this year.**

****Tentative Dates: All Boat Regatta - Sept. 5; SANJL - Sept. 26**

Sunfish Races – All races Sundays at 2:30 pm

Mladen Kresic: 973-764-0452

July 5, 12, 19, 26 / August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 / Sept. 6

Jr. Singles Sunfish Races – Wednesdays at 11 am

Arrive by 10:45

Krissy Amato 512-206-6717 and Dominick Beninati 917-566-3136

July 8, 15, 22, 29 / August 5, 12, 19, 26

Ladies Sunfish Races – Thursdays at 11 am

Sue Buruchian: 973-271-0227

July 9, 16, 23, 30 / August 6, 13, 20, 27 / Sept. 3

Force 5 Sailing Races – Saturdays at 11 am

Erika Rodger: 201-961-3092

July 4, 11, 18, 25 / August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Flying Junior Fleet Sailing Races –

Sundays at 11 am Arrive by 10:45am

Mike Gillooley: 973-764-4185

July 5, 12, 19, 26 / August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 / Sept. 6

Windsurfer Races – Saturdays at 3 pm

Kevin Gaston: 973-764-7332

July 4, 11, 18, 25, / August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Questions? Call Lou at 973-764-7042 or

hlccsailing@gmail.com

Photos Wanted

ROE HALL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/
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.

Next Newsette: July 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. Sorry – we can only print photographs submitted as .jpg files with a minimum of 150 dpi. Thanks!

The Mighty Seniors

JOYCE HEALY, PRESIDENT, SENIOR CLUB

Hello, my friends. Sincere hopes that you and your loved ones are weathering this pandemic and remaining healthy. Please know how much you are missed.

We've heard or read news briefs that some people are experiencing roller-coaster emotions these last few months. Living here in Highland Lakes enables us with calm emotions, and we can gaze out our windows, sit in our yards or take strolls along our lovely roads enjoying beautiful scenery. And, of what do we have an abundance? Trees. Trees that are in early-mid stages of growing new leaves. Think about how we've seen some trees swaying in the wind and notice the trunks weren't moving—we're a bit like that. When life is blowing at us from different directions, our emotions can go all around...rather like branches moving in the wind. Our goal is to know we can be like the trunk of the tree, secure and stable, strong and proudly standing.

We all have a gift in this life—a gift of purpose and value. Many have shared their gift with others in this trying time. Sewing and delivering face masks, food shopping for someone, cooking and sharing meals with others, even phone calls to curb loneliness with a neighborly chat and checking upon others—use your gift. This is your job. Our moms have taught us “it's better to give than to receive.” If you've been giving your gift since March—Thank you, Danke, Grazie, Dziekuje Ci! The Mighty Seniors are proud of you—keep up the good work.

The Senior Club will continue when we are able—perhaps with some modifications, perhaps with some calendar adjustments, but, please know the Senior Club is the largest family here at the lake. We genuinely care about each other, would never disrespect each other or our neighbors and we are always ready to “step up to the plate” and lend a hand. Love you, Joyce, 845-544-3749.



Brian Kloza captured this double rainbow from his deck on May 29



Send Us Your Graduates

SUE ROSS, CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee is in the process of creating a slide show to honor our HL graduates, but we need your help! Send a picture of your graduate with their name and the school they have graduated from so that we can celebrate their achievements. (email it to us at communications@hlcc.org). If your graduate earned a college degree, tell us what it was in too. Once our production is ready for prime time, we will share it with the community on Facebook. Look for it there (@HighlandLakesNJ).

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BOATS/TRAILERS: Old unwanted boats and trailers taken away for free. Also, can move boats from home to dock and shore for reasonable rates. Call Al for details: 973-271-4282 5/25/20

P.E. CONTRACTING: Home renovations, additions, foundations, decks, roofing, siding, kitchens & bathrooms. Highland Lakes resident. Multiple additions and renovations completed in Highland Lakes. We can supply the blueprints, fully insured – eviccievicci@yahoo.com 973-534-8529 5/2/20

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JP ELECTRIC: Free estimates, insured and bonded. Serving HLCC since 1986 license and permit #8521. Brian Boeren 973-670-4175. 5/2/21

FOR SALE: Paddle boat, good condition. Spent most of the time indoors, call 908-347-0860 7/11/20

FOR SALE: Used Aquarerra Chinook single seat kayak, 16', with rudder and spray sheet included, front and rear hatches. Good condition, \$250, call Jonathan 201 463-1439. 6/13/20



Thinking about a renovation or addition?
Talk to an Architect!
Free no obligation consultation



Jim Schriner, AIA

(973) 764-5817 1110 Lakeside Drive East
HIGHLAND ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN, LLC
jim@highlandarchitectural.com www.highlandarchitectural.com

Ladies Sunfish Fleet

SUE BURUCHIAN, FLEET CAPTAIN

We anticipate conducting sailing races as NJ enters Phase 2 of its reopening plan addressing the coronavirus.

Give yourself a water break. Put your sunfish in, raise the sails and go for a sail. This is the best thing you can do for yourself. Get outside, fresh air, fresh water and sun.

June is a great time to practice and soak up some natural vitamins. We sail Thursdays at 11 am from the Eckhart Sailing Center. See you on the starting line beginning July 9. Newcomers - welcome to our fun ladies fleet. Contact 973.271.0227.

CASES OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY

A comparison of commonly confused Northeastern venomous and non-venomous snakes

VENOMOUS

NON-VENOMOUS

Timber Rattlesnake

Crotalus horridus

- Recognized by a tail rattle, a shovel head, facial pits (see picture), and vertical pupils.
- Adult length: 36-54 inches
- Typically a yellowish color with brown or black bands down its back.
- Found in deciduous forests on rugged terrain.
- Hibernates in rocky crevices and dens.
- Endangered in several Northeastern states: NJ, VT, MA, and NH.



Facial Pit



Eastern Hognose

Heterodon platirhinos

- Distinguished by an upturned snout (see picture), lack of facial pits, and round pupils.
- Adult length: 18-45 inches
- Variable coloration; can be spotted yellow or all black.
- Found in woodlands with dry sandy areas.
- When threatened the hognose will flatten its neck and bring its head up off the ground.
- It may also play dead.

Copperhead

Agkistrodon contortrix

- Recognized by a copper/brown/red shovel head, facial pits (see picture), and vertical pupils.
- Adult length: 24-36 inches
- Juveniles have tails with yellow tips.
- Found in forests, rocky outcrops, and farmland/fields.
- Endangered in MA.



Facial Pit



Eastern Milk Snake

Lampropeltis triangulum

- Distinguished by a Y or V on the top of its head, tapered tail, a lack of facial pits, and rounded pupils.
- Adult length: 24-36 inches
- Typically has bands of red/brown/black down its body. Its underbelly is checkered white and black.
- Found in fields, forests, or rocky outcrops.
- Has a broad range across the Northeast.

Cottonmouth

Agkistrodon piscivorus

- Recognized by black "hourglass" bands on its back, a flattened head, facial pits (see picture), and vertical pupils.
- Adult length: 30-48 inches
- When threatened the cottonmouth will expose a white mouth.
- Found near freshwater.
- Range does not extend further north than Virginia.



Facial Pit



Northern Water Snake

Nerodia sipedon

- Distinguished by dark bands down its body, a narrow head, a slender body, a lack of facial pits, and round pupils.
- Adult length: 24-42 inches
- Coloration can be brown, reddish, gray, or black.
- Found near freshwater.
- Has a broad range across the Northeast.

Quick Tips:

- Venomous snakes are very rare in the Northeast.
- Snakes are shy creatures and will typically not attack unless disturbed.
- Venom is meant for prey, not protection.
- Non-venomous snakes will also vibrate their tails when agitated.
- All Northeastern species of venomous snakes have heat sensing facial pits and vertical pupils.

Why Are Snakes Important?

- Snakes are an essential part of ecosystems because they act as both predator and prey. Their absence can alter the balance of a food web.
- Snakes control populations of smaller animals. This directly impacts humans because smaller mammals can spread disease, for example the deer mouse that spreads Lyme disease.

Poster Design by Erin Capra
Illustrations by Brittany LeBold

